MESSAGE

OF

ROBERT T. CONRAD,

Mayor of the City of Philadelphia,

WITH

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.

READ IN SELECT COUNCIL MAY 17th, 1855.

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1855.

MESSAGE.

To the Select and Common Councils
of the City of Philadelphia.

GENTLEMEN:

By the Act of Consolidation, it is made the duty of the Mayor "to communicate to Councils, at least once a year, and oftener, if deemed expedient, a general statement of the condition of the government, in relation to its finances and improvements, and to recommend the adoption of all such measures as he may deem expedient for the security, health, cleanliness, improvement, and welfare of the City." To enable him to perform his duty, power is conferred upon him, in common with the Committees of Councils, "to maintain a supervision of each department, whether corporate or otherwise, for the exposure and correction of all evils and abuses, and to compel the production of books and papers, and the examination of witnesses." I have considered it proper to make report to Councils at a period when, under the system of annual accountability to the public, the affairs of the City, with the expiration of one Council, and the inauguration of another, should be presented for public scrutiny and consideration; but as the law proposes a regular and annual communication, in addition to those which may be dictated by occa-

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sional necessity, and as it devolves upon me, so far as a single example may do so, to establish a precedent as to the time when that communication shall be made, I think it desirable, in consideration of the difference in the official tenures of the executive officers, and of the representatives of the people in Councils, that the commencement of the year should be regularly adopted as the period for the annual executive message to Councils, and therefore the annual message will be delivered on the first meeting of Councils in January, hereafter.

In conformity with the duty enforced upon me, I have made an official call upon the Head of every branch of the public service for such information in relation to the public interests committed to his charge, as the government is entitled to, and it becomes my duty to remark that, while many of them claim the public confidence by the fullness, frankness and clearness of their exhibitions, there are others that, probably from satisfactory causes, have been most tardily made, and are not so ample and explicit as might be desired and expected. The field of inquiry is more extensive, as the labors and accountabilities of a great city are more multiplied, various and important, than is generally believed. The greatness of the interests involved—though those of Philadelphia are far from inconsiderable—does not always determine the difficulty nor the dignity of legislative labors so truly, as the multiplicity of those interests and their issues, the number of public departments, and the variety of duties which are incidental to them. In the call for information made upon the heads of the various Departments, a copy of which is appended, their attention has been earnestly called to the primary duties of improvement in the service, and retrenchment in the expenditures of the government; and their reports, herewith submitted, will furnish such facts and suggestions as the inquiries have elicited.

It is, perhaps, the unfortunate tendency of all municipal

governments, in which the frequent expenditures of large amounts are necessary, to lapse into improvidence, if not corruption. It is, therefore, proper, at the opening of our annually renewed legislative career, to investigate rigorously, regardless of all parties or persons, and with or without accusation, every subject that can be presumed to cover abuse or extravagance; and to inquire, in regard to every branch of the government, what wrong can be redressed, what prodigality retrenched, and where and how we may secure a more energetic, inexpensive and effective administration of the public interests. To such inquiries and efforts I will, so far as change is improvement, and retrenchment true economy, consider it my privilege and duty to lend my official aid and sanction.

It has been my earnest desire to address Councils in relation to the financial condition of the Government, the subject which most engages the public attention, most involves the public interests; and which, from its intimate connection with every branch of the public service, should be the principal subject of the annual communication from the Executive to the legislature of the City. But I have to regret that the Controller, as will be seen by the following letter, has failed to respond to the official call made upon him:

CONTROLLER'S OFFICE,
May 16, 1855.

HON. R. T. CONRAD,
Mayor.

SIR: I have endeavored to comply with your request, in furnishing you with all the information in regard to the interests of the City, as connected with this office, but the duties of the office have been such that it is an impossibility for me to render you the information in time for your annual message. I regret it exceedingly, and would have prevented it if in my power. Yours,

JOHN N. HENDERSON,
Controller.

It is hardly necessary to say that, in the absence of the report of the principal financial officer of the City Government, no review of the past, and no consideration of the present state of that most important branch of the duties and interests of the Government, is possible. This is to be regretted, as no delay should be permitted in regard to the pressing duties connected with this department. I will improve the earliest opportunity to address Councils upon this subject, and, meanwhile, may be permitted to state, that I will zealously aid and sanction every measure necessary to sustain the financial interests and credit of the City.

The duties of Councils, during the first year of the new government, have been earnest and onerous, and their labors are probably not so favorably appreciated as they will be hereafter. They were required, in effect, to frame a government for a city, peculiar in the character and condition of its constituent municipalities and communities, and spreading over an area so extensive as to embrace, within city limits, large agricultural interests. It was their duty to organize its many departments, each in itself a government, and controlling interests various, intricate and important. They were obliged to establish the fundamental laws of those departments, to select the officers required to administer them, and in effect, to watch over and guide them into practical and successful operation. To effect this, under a carefully perfected system, would have been no ordinary task, requiring neither ordinary abilities nor ordinary labors; but the Act of Consolidation, under which Councils acted, is known to have been, necessarily, a compromise, crude and incomplete, which reserved many of the issues that should have been settled by the legislation of the State, for that of the Councils. Besides, all the circumstances attendant upon the birth of the new government, and the duties of its guardians in Council, were peculiar. They were expected, by the unreflecting, to realize,

and at once, the extraordinary advantages always expected from innovation, and especially the financial benefits anticipated from consolidation—an utter impossibility, as many of the old munincipal governments were, at the time of their demise, on the eve of bankruptcy; some were absolutely bankrupt; some had recklessly or corruptly enlarged their engagements and the responsibilities of the new government, with a frightful rashness, the results of which now burthen us, and others had permitted their financial affairs to fall into a condition of chaotic confusion, doubt and irresponsibility. All of doubt, difficulty and accountability, thus accumulated, the new government was, in addition to its own burthens, required to bear. It was expected to correct the abuses, methodize the confusion, and supply the fiscal deficiencies thus heaped upon it; and to do this, in addition to the duty of organizing and carrying on a complicated government for itself, and of encountering the most serious financial embarrassments, in the gloomiest monetary crisis known to the country. And it should be remembered that these extraordinary results were expected, not from professional jurists and experienced statesmen, liberally requited, but from our fellow-citizens, who withdrew from their avocations and interests, to dedicate themselves to the service of the city. For one year they thus unremittingly labored, during which period they met three hundred and nineteen times in committee; they held eighty-one sessions, and passed seven hundred and thirty-six ordinances and resolutions. In the course of that period, a sense of duty constrained me, upon various occasions, and upon important questions, to manifest a decided difference of opinion from that which governed the action of Councils, and even to interpose the power with which I am entrusted, to prevent what I deemed serious departures from the principles of the act of Consolidation, and the true policy of the city; but I cannot doubt that the community owes a debt of grati-

tude to the diligence, devotion, and public spirit of those citizens whose unrequited labors have organized this government, and have, if not effected all that was expected or desired, at least done so much as to leave a generous task of emulation to their successors. There is more danger to be apprehended from injustice to public servants, than from want of jealousy or suspicion. But few inducements remain for the wise and good to run the gauntlet of a public trust. The misfortune of our country is, that abounding in good and great men, even the most urgent solicitation can seldom induce the disinterested to enter, at the risk of peace and fame, the public service. Let the howl of disappointed faction be encouraged by respectable public opinion, and the field will be left wholly to the wolves who raise it. The present Councils have, therefore, the strongest reasons, referring to the dignity and duty of the public and themselves, for discouraging injustice to their predecessors, who, after laboring long and wearicdly, and, as it is feared, unthankfully, for the city, have, with little reason for congratulation, retired to the refuge of private life.

As the primary object of all government is protection against lawless violence, its first duty is the establishment of a power that will maintain the public tranquillity; and the absence and urgent necessity of such a power was here the influential motive for the adoption of "Consolidation." The need of a vigorous police is perhaps greater in our large American cities, than anywhere in the civilized world. If our population were native, or homogeneous, we would have less need of police restraints than a city like London, whose vast population is governed with a mild control, that secures tranquillity, without oppression. As a more youthful and less corrupt people, with less inequality, less ignorance, and less misery, there would be less necessity for police guardianship; and in point of fact, our American communities hardly knew

the necessity of such protection until the excess of immigration had changed the character of our cities. But, in the actual state of the facts, we now need greater police energies for the protection of our people than the capitols of Europe. Perverted immigration has filled our cities with pauperism—the fruitful parent of disorder and crime. Of this fact, no other proof is needed than the annexed statement of the condition of our Poor Department. Perverted immigration has filled our cities with the transported criminals of Europe. The extent of this insulting and hostile policy, more worthy of just resentment than the frothy trifles so often made the subject of declamation, is not fully known; but no magistrate connected with the police administration, can be ignorant of the fact, (and its statement should not be considered a wrong to the worthy emigrant—for to such it does not, and is not intended to apply,) that a considerable proportion of those arrested for crime are the exiles of European prisons. But the same cause has introduced novel and foreign vices and habits, the engendering and prolific causes of crime; and even where these do not exist, it has made our cities the home of the disputes of clans and classes, sects and factions, alien to our character and country. To these various sources must we mainly ascribe the increase in our cities of beggars and vagrancy, of audacious prostitution and lawless riot, with all the terrible catalogue of crimes that swell the calendar of our courts, and crowd the cells of our prisons. Nor can it be overlooked. that the same cause has induced a hostility of classes that has made so many of our American cities—but for that single cause, harmonious and happy—the scene of insurrection and civil warfare. It is not pleasant to refer to such facts, but it is a melancholy truth, that all Europe has not presented the same number of civic insurrections as have, from this unfortunate cause, been produced in our own country; that a

recent instance, in a Western city, affords a proof of the activity and power of this spirit; and that the same causes continue to menace the same results. But it would be most unjust to ascribe all the dissentions and riots that have disturbed the public tranquillity, to this cause. In the ungovernable temper of those who call themselves firemen, and who, under the pretext of protecting the city, outrage its laws and disturb its peace, not unfrequently carrying the fury of their feuds to the extent of murder, we find equal evidence of the necessity of an energetic system of police protection. The results of these and other causes of public disquietude—the constant recurrence of riot, the frequent loss of life, and the universal sense of insecurity, induced the conviction that an exemption from evils so terrible—evils which lower the character of the city, affected its commerce, and depreciated its property—would be cheaply purchased at any price; and that the first duty of the government was the establishment of an effective police.

The subject of municipal police economy has been made the theme of investigation so searching, and of an experience so extended, that it may be almost considered a science. It has been, especially in England, where it has been brought to the greatest perfection, reduced to rules which, in their operation, seem to be almost unerring, and attain at the least expense, the certain result of security. The only police worth a thought—the only police capable of effecting a result worthy of public care or approbation, is that which is based upon the principle of prevention. The miserable system by which the public was so long amused with a show of security, a system under which the officers waited patiently until crime was committed, and then set upon the pursuit of the offender, constituted, at best, an authorized warfare between the police and the criminals; and if it did not encourage crime, did not prevent it. Under the most favorable views, it was an in-

effective system of subsequent vengeance; and in every moral and practical point of view, was an absurdity. *Such is the character of every police that is not sufficient to render the commission of crime nearly, if not quite, impossible.* The only police worth the cost of its maintenance, is one of prevention; and such a police should be a system, overspreading and guarding the whole community, rendering it either impossible, or most dangerous, to attempt the commission of crime, and leaving no moment of time, and no place, without its guardian. The preventive police has been adopted in nearly every well regulated community, and wherever adopted, has been retained. It is approved because it is, in a moral point of view, better to prevent crime than to punish it; because it is less expensive to the government to deter the criminal than to arrest, convict and support him, and to the individual members of the community, who are protected from depredations, whose property becomes more valuable from its security, and whose lives and labors, days and nights, have the inestimable value of tranquillity.

It was the aim of the city government to make the present a preventive police, so far as its limited number, in view of its enlarged duties, rendered it possible. The first requisite recognized, was the personal character of the officer; and in every case, the most unexceptionable evidence was required that the applicant conformed to the following rule:

"To hold a place in the police, the following qualifications will be required:—American birth; age between twenty-three and fifty; physical health and vigor; ability to read and write; entire purity of moral character and habits; invariable temperance; unquestionable courage; peaceable and courteous manners; decorous and genteel attire; zeal for the service; respectful obedience to superior officers; and promptness and decision in action."

The number of the police, as it involves the question of

expense, is a subject of serious inquiry. If, after investigation, that number be considered excessive, I will not hesitate to sanction such measures as a proper economy shall dictate in regard to its diminution. The preservation of the public peace and the enforcement of the laws, constitute an imperative duty, and it would be a false economy to expose the community to perils or outrages, by withdrawing the guardians necessary for their protection. The number of the police is nominally 916, though, under an anxious desire to lessen the expenses of the department, I have dispensed with officers whenever and wherever the public service would allow it. A less number has at all times been employed. The same motive has induced a stinted policy in regard to the station houses; and it is believed that, in their preparation for the uses of the department, there has been exercised an economy which, though not inconsistent with their efficiency, has effected a large saving to the public.

The duties of the police have been prescribed in a manual, carefully prepared, after an elaborate examination of the police systems of the European cities and those of our own country, which manual is placed in the hands of each officer, and all are held to a rigid accountability, under the regulations thus established. The force is necessarily divided into three classes, one of which is always upon active service, and every officer is held to a strict responsibility for the condition of his peculiar "beat." The extent of their charge, the number of miles of streets and alleys under their supervision and guardianship, is about six hundred. This extent must be traversed, watched, and guarded by a force seldom averaging more than two hundred and fifty, a duty greater than human energies can render. Yet, under the theory of the preventive system, each officer is held accountable for the entire section placed under his care. To diminish the number, and thus extend the area assigned to their protection,

would be, necessarily, to ordain, that the excess of space, beyond their power to traverse, should be deprived of protection. A careful examination of the facts, will prove the utter impossibility of extending even the promise and pretence of protection to the entire city, with the present number of police, to any considerable extent diminished, and will demonstrate, that such diminution will be, in effect, a return to the old system with all its feebleness, corruption, and inutility.

It should be the aim of Philadelphia to render her police arrangements superior to those of her rival cities. A comparison of her police with that of New York will indicate the relative means of the two cities to attain these advantages. The police of New York consists of a body of armed, uniformed and disciplined officers, comprising about 1200 men; that of Philadelphia consists of about 900. The great duty of the police is to guard the dwellings of citizens. The houses in New York number by the last census, about 37,500; those of Philadelphia are over 60,000. The principal labor required from the police is to traverse, as sentinels, the streets committed to their care. The area of Philadelphia, excluding the rural districts, nearly doubles that of New York. Thus the police duty is much greater in Philadelphia, though the force is much less; and I may add, that the police salaries in New York are much more liberal than those here allowed. In regard to the duties required and performed, and the number of officers to whom they are confided, as well as the compensation given, the system of Philadelphia is much the more economical; and it is believed that a comparison with every well regulated municipality, here and in Europe, would exhibit the same favorable result.

I invite the attention of Councils to the police statistics annexed. They disclose facts which deserve their attention. The primary object of consolidation was to secure a vigorous

police, and a tranquil city. Before that time, not only were our streets terrified with nightly riots, but they witnessed, in more than one instance, mid-day assassinations, and disregard and defiance of law were so open, frequent, and flagrant, as to demand the adoption of a more efficient police system. Under the former government, there were no nightly watchmen in some of our large and populous districts, and the day police, such as it was, was rather the source, than the security against disorder and crime. Under this state of things, incendiarism, street conflicts and crimes of all kinds became rather the rule than the exception, of the government of Philadelphia.

The change that ensued, upon the adoption of the present government, was effected at less expense and with fewer agents, than, under the circumstances, could have been expected. The city of Philadelphia proper had enjoyed a certain degree of exemption from turbulence and disquietude. No one supposed that its police was excessive in numbers; and the new government might have been justified in extending the city system over the contiguous municipalities; but, instead of doing so, it diminished the number of police in the city proper, and, upon that depreciated police standard, merely extended the protection of a similar police system to districts where there had been either no police, or but the shadow of one. Unless the city was overburdened with its police before the Consolidation Act, there can be no excess now, as, within the city proper, the number of the police is much less than before the Act of Consolidation, where they had a police of 361 men. They have now only 300 men, and the same proportion has been observed in extending the system to the districts. If, then, the city was not too well guarded before, the districts are not now, for the number of their protectors; and the standard of that

number, instead of being increased, has been considerably diminished.

The late session of the Legislature, in prohibiting the sale of liquor in the same place where it is drank, and thus suppressing the drinking houses now so numerous in this community, imposed upon the authorities of the city a duty equally important and difficult. It will demand, for its execution, every energy of a faithful and effective police; and in view of such a duty, to reduce the power of the authorities would be, in effect, to repeal the law.

Of the organization, action, and results of the police department, I may be permitted to speak with satisfaction. Its officers are gentlemen selected for their high character, and worthy, from their intelligence and integrity, of the trust reposed in them. To their energy and fidelity may be ascribed the results which have transformed the aspect of our city — have made our Sabbaths sacred, and rendered violence and outrage, once so familiar to our streets, almost unknown.

The organization of the police force was necessarily attended with considerable expense. The establishment of a new police station became necessary in each ward; cells were to be constructed and furniture supplied. A strict economy in all expenditures incident to this object has been observed, and, with the exception of the Third and Fourth Wards, comfortable and proper accommodations have been provided for the wants of the service. The impossibility of procuring suitable houses in the Third and Fourth Wards is the cause of the exception.

The cost of fitting up all police stations, construction of cells, and providing furniture for the same, was $13,800.

The annual appropriation to the Police Department for the current year, 1855, was $505,640: the actual expense of the department will be less than that amount. For the quarter

ending April 1st, 1855, the salaries of all officers attached to the Police Department amounted to $117,184 74. The expenses other than salaries, for the same period, including rent of stations, arrest and conviction of offenders, &c., was $4,984 64, making the total expense of the Executive and Police Departments for the first quarter of the current fiscal year, $122,169 38.

During the seven months ending April 30th, 1855, the police force made 16,772 arrests.

For Intoxication, - -	3947	Arson, - - - - - -	36
Disorderly conduct, -	8224	Gambling, - - - - -	87
Riot, - - - - - - -	262	Bigamy, - - - - - -	6
Assault and battery, -	1308	Conspiracy, - - - -	14
Vagrancy, - - - - -	613	Highway robbery, -	2
Larceny, - - - - -	971	Burglary, - - - - -	42
Keeping disorderly houses,	130	Forgery, - - - - -	2
Violations of the Liquor Law, - - - - - -	296	Other offences, - -	819
Murder, - - - - - -	13	Total, - - - -	16,772

The importance of this department, and the peculiar circumstances in which I found it placed, have made it my duty to devote to it a much larger share of my attention than would otherwise have been consistent, or, perhaps, proper. I rejoice that the earnest and unremitting labor bestowed upon it has effected the results which I desired, and which have been so fruitful in blessings to the community. But before leaving this subject, permit me to remark that the very triumphs attained are likely to be used against the department. Those who know little of the profound and long continued efforts by which tranquillity has been secured to the public, who see districts, heretofore given over to lawless license, now redeemed, and rendered calm and happy, doubt the necessity of the causes by which those results were, with infinite pain and peril, attained. Why, they ask, should we have public guardians where all is peace and security? A wise discretion

will suggest that evil is ever active and alert, and that if the preventive agencies, now noiselessly but effectually applied, be withdrawn, all that in the past affrighted and afflicted the community, will be upon the instant renewed. The true merit and boast of a well-directed preventive police is, that it excludes crime and disorder; its most valuable results are those that cannot be paraded—the absence of crime; and in proportion as it effects its real object, its necessity becomes less apparent to the community. The only answer to such objections is, an appeal to the community to contrast the present and the past. Withdraw the safeguards now established, and the past will soon become the present.

In relation to this branch of the public service, I cannot conclude without acknowledging that much of the efficiency of the present police system is due to the intelligence, devotion and influence of the late Chairman of the Police Committee, and to the cordial co-operation I always received from him in perfecting its details and discipline.

The report of the Guardians of the Poor will deserve the attention of Councils. It is impossible to regard the vast expenditure of this department without a doubt, not merely as to the details of the system, but as to the wisdom of the system itself. The vastness of the amount expended, the invitation given to foreign pauperism, and the encouragement extended to the vicious and indolent of our own population, present subjects for serious consideration. The details of the system are open to greater objection. In the present condition of the finances of the city, it is proper to retrench at every possible point of expenditure, and it must be admitted, by every one who has examined the Department of the Poor, that there is ample room for such retrenchment. It will be found by the annual report of the Board, that the out-door relief for the year ending May 20, 1854, was $56,895. For the corresponding period ending May 20, 1855, there is reason

to believe the amount will reach $80,000. It can hardly be believed that so large a sum could be thus disbursed in accordance with any sound principle of public benevolence. The mode of administering this relief is by nine visitors, in the several sections of the city, and the members of the Board, (21 in number) who give, or order to be given, at their discretion, the relief thus dispensed. This is distributed in coal, cash, wood and groceries. The original design of this system was the economical relief of private poverty, but the expenditure has become so enormous as to render the entire system a subject of serious doubt. The visitors and guardians are besieged with applications during winter, many cases coming from the same quarters that are relieved by private or organized benevolence; and it is stated, on good authority, that these applications amount to half a million of dollars annually. It is a fact, established by the experience of the benevolent organizations of the cities of our country, that the proclaimed and expected advantages extended by public charity, create the pauperism they are expected to relieve; and it is certain, that not only is a large proportion of this bounty dispensed carelessly and unwisely, to the imprudent and unworthy, but that it taxes the people with an expenditure that encourages the evils which it relieves, and multiplies the number of those who expect their maintenance from an improvident public department. Nor can it be doubted, even by the most casual observer, that the premiums offered by an easy and indolent life, within the walls of the Alms-house, do much to increase the unnecessary burthens of the city. The reputation of our Alms-house, as the refuge of the idle, is known even in Europe, and invites the paupers, not only of neighboring cities, but of foreign shores, to the lazy dependence so readily secured at the expense of our citizens. There seems to be no reasonable objection to the introduction of a more disciplined system of labor in the Alms-house. To the aged and afflicted

the couch of public benevolence should be softened with the kindliest ministrations; but to the idle wretches, who expect and depend upon its bounty, as a mere escape from toil, there should be the rigid enforcement of active labor. Let me add, in this connection, that I see no reason why the Alms-house should not comprise within its extensive walls, the benefits of a House of Correction. Every advantage necessary for such an institution is there possessed; and its adoption would be attended, not only with a diminution of pauperism, but with the correction of vagrancy, and the discouragement of vice.

The large amount of expenditure incident to the Department of the Poor, and the prevailing doubts as to its wisdom, seem to dictate the propriety of an investigation, on the part of Councils, in relation to the condition and management of this institution.

Though reluctant to approach, in the absence of the Controller's report, the subject of the finances, I will suggest that the grounds of the Alms-House property, not more than one-half of which will ever be required for the purposes of the poor, be disposed of, and the proceeds appropriated to replenish the treasury. These grounds are very valuable, from their near vicinity to improvements, and might find purchasers at any time. They are now used for farming purposes, and of course produce but little in value. It is estimated that more than $200,000 worth of that property might be disposed of, and the wants of the city in no wise impaired.

The report from the Commissioner of City Property is very full and satisfactory—exhibiting in detail a list of all property owned by the city, committed to the care of that officer. Much of that property, especially the Corporation Halls of the old municipalities, is not required by the wants of the city, and is at present not only unproductive, but a source of expense. Sound policy suggests that, in accordance with the

provisions of the 22d section of the Supplement to the Consolidation Act, "as rapidly as purchasers can be procured without a sacrifice of price," such property should be sold.

In the Department of Gas, one of the most important connected with the City Government and the interests of our people, the information furnished is full, and in every particular satisfactory. It is a subject of congratulation, that the various questions connected with this important interest have been permanently adjusted. The advantages, both as respects convenience and safety, arising from the use of gas light, are now so well understood and appreciated, as to have produced a general desire for the extension of its benefits to all parts of the city, where population is sufficiently dense to warrant its introduction.

Numerous petitions, promising an addition of many thousand lights, the supplying of which would contribute both to the welfare of the petitioners and to the prosperity of the Gas Works, have been presented by citizens in the newly built parts of the city, who are in every way entitled to the accommodation they request, but cannot receive it, in consequence of the want of authority on the part of the Trustees for raising the requisite funds.

In January, 1855, the anticipated necessity of making provision to meet the demands for extension of the street pipes, was brought to the notice of the Trustees, in the annual report of the engineer, and the subject was soon after urged upon the attention of Councils in a report of the Trustees, in which was set forth their opinion in favor of continuing a policy from which had resulted so much advantage, both to the public and to citizens individually, without any hazard of taxing the City Treasury.

A bill, framed for the purpose of conferring the requisite authority to enable the Trustees to meet the wishes of their fellow citizens, by making the extensions they request, was

introduced into the late body of Common Councils, and having been by their action carried through the preliminary forms required by law, is now in a position to be taken up and perfected, with but little further delay; and as a postponement of it for a few weeks will virtually deprive many citizens of its benefits for a whole year, it becomes highly desirable that it should be finally acted on as early as may be practicable.

Another subject which the interests of the Gas Works require to be urged upon the early attention of Councils, is the necessity of providing houses for the accommodation of the workmen employed at the new Gas Works in the First Ward, from the want of which, serious inconvenience now arises to the men, who are compelled to travel several miles daily to and from their work; and also the hazard of a deficient supply of Gas is encountered, in case the workmen should, by any cause, be prevented from reaching their distant place of employment.

The Department of Public Highways is one that merits, on account of the importance of its duties, and the amount of its expenditures, the early and earnest attention of Councils. The call made upon the Chief of the Department elicited a report, which is subjoined. It refers to various subjects of public interest in the Department, the importance of which demands a more elaborate consideration, but it affords no information upon the subject of retrenchment, to which the attention of the Chief of the Department was especially directed.

The duties of this department affect the most important public interests, and demand the utmost energy and devotion for their satisfactory performance. The facilities afforded by perfected avenues for intercourse and transportation, are the best evidences, results and promotives of the prosperity of a community. The wishes and interests of the public unite to invoke a peculiar attention and faithful devotion to this duty, and it is to be hoped that the influence of Councils will

stimulate the exertions necessary to answer the just expectations of the community. It is not, or ought not to be, sufficient to satisfy the people, that the public avenues are in a practicable condition—they should be, under an energetic government, faultless; and there should also be manifested the will and ability to extend and improve them.

It will be my duty, hereafter, to communicate with Councils upon the various and important subjects connected with the operations of this department; but it is proper that I should now invite the attention of Councils to the necessity of retrenchment in the unnecessary expenses incident to the present cumbrous system. The Chief of the Department has declined at present to report the retrenchments suggested by his practical knowledge of the workings of the department, reserving his communication upon this subject for a more favorable period, when it will be made to the proper committees; but I consider it my duty to urge upon Councils the propriety of an early revision of the ordinance establishing this department. It is a matter of remark, that those who supervise the labors of this branch of the service nearly equal in number the operatives who perform the work; and certain it is, that the multiplication of officials in the department is in obvious and almost absurd disproportion to the necessity of their services. A very considerable number of these officers may, without prejudice to the service, be dispensed with, and the government thus saved an expense, for which there seems to be neither necessity nor excuse.

However influential may be the considerations that urge the propriety of uniting the eastern and western portions of our City, and continuing Chestnut street by a viaduct over the Schuylkill, a measure recommended by the soundest policy, the 21st section of the Supplement to the Consolidation Act seems to render it at present impossible. Until the City Treasury shall have been relieved from all present or prospec-

tive embarrassment, or until the law referred to shall have been removed from the statute book, there appears to be no ability, on the part of the City Government, to adopt any measures to secure a result so generally and justly desired by our citizens.

The Reports of the "Superintendent of City Railroads," "Commissioner of Wharves and Landings," and "Commissioner of Markets" herewith submitted, present, in detail, the operations of the Departments over which they respectively preside; and I respectfully commend the suggestions contained therein to the consideration of Councils.

The Report of the President of Girard College exhibits a flattering condition of that institution.

There is, perhaps, no branch of the government in regard to which a feeling of such unmingled satisfaction may be indulged, as that of the Public Schools. Their annual Report will be found to afford evidence of the devoted and faithful performance on the part of the estimable gentlemen to whom an enlightened public confidence has confided this invaluable trust, of all the exalted duties of their station. (*See Anuual Report.*)

The Report of the President of the Board of Inspectors of the County Prison contains facts of great and general interest. The prison statistics prove that, under the present police system, there has been a decrease in the amount of crime, which is equally extraordinary and gratifying. They establish the important fact, that the energetic and faithful administration of the laws circumscribes the empire of profligacy, and the misery which attends it; not only diminishes crime, and its immediate consequences, but that it reduces the public charges and burthens. The administration of the prison seems to have deserved and secured the public approbation within the past year, and the statistical results ascertained by the reports of the officers of the prison, are highly satisfactory. I

will probably improve a future opportunity to address the Counеils upon this subject.

The report of the City Solieitor, which is appended, exhibits a great degree of activityand energy in that department. It has, in regard to all the departments and interests of the government, won, by the diligence, zeal and fidelity of its officers, general eonfidenee and applause.

The delay in the organization of the Department of Surveys by the late Councils, and the reorganization of that department under the provisions of the third and fourth seetions of the Supplement to the Consolidation Aet, has prevented the head of that department, in the limited time he has been in office, and under the difficulties attending its organization, from submitting an extended report. The suggestions contained in the report submitted, are recommended to the early attention of Counеils.

The call made, under the Act of Consolidation, upon the City Commissioners for information in relation to their department, has been, for reasons not explained, unattended to.

The various and important provisions of the Supplement to the Act of Consolidation, passed at the late session of the Legislature, impose duties and restrictions upon the City Government, whieh will necessarily have received their attentive eonsideration. One of the seetions, the twenty-first, places the Mayor in a relation to Councils that eannot but be embarrassing. It requires, among other things, that "it shall be the duty of the Mayor to keep a register of the amount and objects of all appropriations, and to withhold his signature for all new constructions and redemption of tolls as aforesaid, until all the interests aecruing on the loans of the eity, and the principals of those beeoming due, and the ordinary and necessary expenses of the city, and the administration of justice in the eounty, shall be *adequately* provided for, and

without his signature any ordinance therefor shall not go into effect."

The "constructions" referred to are those designated in the twentieth section of the same Act, in the following words: "the construction of any new building, school-house, bridge, culvert, new paving of streets," &c. This enactment leaves Councils at liberty to make appropriations for any, even the most extravagant, objects—those stated, which comprise the interests most valuable to a rapidly advancing city, alone excepted; but, in regard to the stated objects, it imposes upon the Mayor a duty, not only unrepublican, but inconsistent with every received principle of enlightened government. It makes it his duty, for the failure to perform which he is liable not only to impeachment as an officer, but to indictment as a criminal, to withhold his signature from the action of the Legislature in the cases mentioned. The veto power is not, under any circumstances, pleasant to the possessor, nor gracious to the Legislature; but under the section cited, the Mayor and the Councils are subjected to the same iron authority—he is compelled to withhold his sanction, and they are required to submit.

The contingency contemplated by the act in regard to the state of the City Treasury, is one involving so much of difficulty and doubt, as to require the exercise of the most guarded caution on the part of the Executive. It may be doubted whether the certain facts mentioned by the act can be, under any amplitude of examination and vigilance of research, ascertained. It seems to contemplate that the Executive Department should be made a Controller's office, and that all the auxiliaries should be employed necessary to ascertain what must be ascertained, viz: First, the future accountability of the city; second, the ability of the government to meet that accountability.

Under the obligations thus imposed, it is necessary that the Mayor should be enabled, by such clerical aid as the exigencies of this extraordinary duty require, to obtain the information necessary for the intelligent exercise of the novel prerogative imposed upon him. Without that information, it will become his duty to withhold his signature from every appropriation within the category mentioned. Even if he be expected to rely upon the reports furnished by the departments—a reliance which the suspicious spirit of the enactment does not seem to sanction—it will require for the duties thus assigned, a Clerk of Registration; and such an officer seems to be contemplated by the act. The duties of the department, as at present constituted, which require from one person all the labor of a Clerk of the Chief Magistrate, of a Clerk of the Police Department, and of a Secretary of the Executive branch of the administration, united in one individual, render it impossible that the financial service thus imposed can be performed in this office, as now constituted. Councils cannot be more reluctant than I am to create any new office; but it is apparent that either an officer must be authorized to perform the duty thus required, or the duty must be left unperformed.

The multiplication of unnecessary duties and unnecessary officers is one of the most offensive of the many modes of taxing the people. In the construction of the present government, where so much was to be done, it is not extraordinary that some portion of the duty was, in the pressure of many subjects, imperfectly performed. In the hurry of the earlier action of the Councils the property of the city was confided to the care of an unnecessary number of departments. It is difficult to imagine why there should be more than one department for the control of all the property of the city. There is no labor, no difficulty, and no responsibility which it is necessary to divide, and yet Councils have made a Department of City Property, one of Wharves and Landings, and one of

Markets—three branches of government for the management of the most unembarrassed branch of the public duties. This multiplication of departments induces a multiplication of offices and officers, of salaries and expenses, and I, therefore, respectfully suggest that it would be in every point of view desirable that those departments be consolidated into one.

The duties of a municipal government, in charge of a great commercial metropolis, are so multiplied and momentous, and so involved with colliding and various interests and issues, that a large debt of gratitude is due from the people to those of their distinguished fellow citizens who consent to devote, in the public council, their time and energies to the service of the community. This task assumes a more than ordinary severity from the peculiar financial interests and duties of the city at the present time, and while I am constrained, from the absence of the necessary official information, to suspend comment upon that, the overruling public consideration, I may remark that the obligation imposed upon the Councils demands, in regard to that subject, the most earnest attention. Meanwhile, I may be permitted to add, that a full examination of the fiscal affairs of the city will exhibit no unsatisfactory result, and that there cannot be a doubt that the resources of the government, ample, and in fact unembarrassed, are such as to render the duty of Councils facile to themselves, and satisfactory to the public.

R. T. CONRAD,
Mayor.

Mayor's Office, *May* 16*th*, 1855.

CIRCULAR.

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
Philadelphia, May 1, 1855.

To

DEAR SIR: By the Consolidation Act, Sec. 50, it is provided that Councils shall, through the Mayor and the proper Committees, maintain a supervision of each department, whether corporate or otherwise, and over the Inspectors of the Prison, for the exposure and correction of all evils and abuses; and for that purpose may require the production of, and inspect all books and papers, and the attendance of witnesses, by subpœna, and may examine them under oath and affirmation; and by the seventh section, it is made the duty of the Mayor to communicate to Councils, at least once a year, and oftener if deemed expedient, a general statement of the condition of the City in relation to its government, finances and improvements; to recommend the adoption of all such measures as he may deem expedient for the security, health, cleanliness, improvement and welfare of the City; to be vigilant and active in causing the laws and ordinances of the City to be executed; and to exercise a constant supervision and control over the conduct of all subordinate officers, etc.

In conformity with the above requirements, I have to request that you will, forthwith, furnish me with a full, comprehensive and detailed account of the transactions and condition of your Department, together with all facts, and such statistical, financial and other information, as will enable me to perform the duties thus imposed.

I have particularly to desire that you will, with as little delay as possible, afford me full, accurate and detailed information upon the following heads, viz:

1. The condition of the interests connected with and under charge of your department at the time of its organization, and when entrusted to your care, including the annual expenditures, the number of officers and men employed, salaries, incidental expenses, etc.

2. The organization and present condition of your department, with such a view of the system as will enable me to inform Councils and the public of the policy adopted.

3. The expenses of your department, past, current and prospective, with such views of this subject as you may deem valuable to the government.

4. An outline of the results attained up to this date in the improvements effected in your department.

5. Such views, general and particular, as you may deem proper to be communicated to Councils in regard to your department, and to all subjects within the scope of your duties, that may promote the interests of the City.

In the present financial condition of the City, it is also proper to ask the head of each department for instruction in relation to such retrenchments, if any, as are prudent and practicable within his branch of the government; what officers may be safely dispensed with; what expenses may be cut off; what projects of improvement may, without a serious deterioration of the public interests, be deferred to a more favorable period, and generally where and how the public expenditures within such department may be curtailed.

Permit me to request that your report be furnished at the earliest possible period.

R. T. CONRAD,
Mayor.

REPORTS.

Report of the President of the Board of Inspectors of the County Prison.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY PRISON,
May 8th, 1855.

HON. R. T. CONRAD, Mayor.

DEAR SIR:—In answer to the circular which you were pleased to send me, dated May 1, 1855, I beg leave to transmit to you the following information connected with this department.

The Philadelphia County Prison is managed by a board consisting of twenty-four Inspectors, elected by the people annually. The present board was organized on the third day of July last.

The departments of the prison are managed by Standing Committees, the following of which are the most important, to wit:

Committee on Manufactures.
" " Supplies.
" " Accounts.
" " Alterations and Repairs.
" " Hospital.

These committees maintain a general supervision of the departments under their charge, and report monthly to the board.

At the time of the organization of the board, the population of the prison was much reduced, owing to the cholera having

broken out two or three weeks previously; and but few persons were committed for minor offences during its prevalence.

The new board, upon entering on their duties, found it necessary to make many important repairs and improvements in the prison. The floors of a large number of cells were so much decayed, that the health of the occupants was endangered from the odor arising from the rotten floors. Two hundred of the cells were put in good order, and some others partially repaired; this was all that could be done with the appropriation made by Councils for that purpose. There are still a number that will require repairing during the coming season.

The gas was also introduced, which tended greatly to the comfort and cleanliness, while the expense of lighting the prison has been much reduced.

The furnaces were repaired at a cost of over nine hundred dollars. The subject of heating the prison has caused the board much anxiety. The present system is defective, very expensive, and continually endangers the lives of the prisoners during the winter months. Scarcely a year has passed since the prison was erected, that one or more lives have not been lost from the escaping gas, and no remedy can be applied under the present system. The prison is heated by twenty-four furnaces, having *sheet* iron pipes placed in an air chamber the length of each range of cells; these pipes soon corrode on the inside from the action of the sulphur in the coal, and holes are continually being eaten through them; the gas escaping to the air chambers, and thence to the cells; it is impossible to foretell when and where a breach will occur, and a constant apprehension is kept up in the minds of the prisoners, as well as with those in whose charge they are placed. If steam or hot water was introduced, a great saving would be made in fuel, and those connected with the institution would be relieved of the constant anxiety that exists

under the present system! At one time during the past winter, seventeen prisoners were taken from their cells insensible, and two lives were lost from the effects of gas. I *most respectfully, but earnestly*, call the attention of Councils to this subject.

With regard to the finances of the Prison, I beg leave to present the following synopsis of the expenses for the years 1853 and 1854.

1853.

Warrants paid in 1853 for Salaries and General Expenses, - - - - - - -	$49,050 07
Warrants paid in 1854 for Salaries and Purchases in 1853, unpaid January 1, 1854,	30,172 30
Expenses for 1853, - - - -	$79,222 37

1854.

Warrants paid for expenses, - - - -	$73,560 74
Deduct amount paid for introducing gas and extraordinary repairs, - - - -	3,658 91
Support and maintenance of Prisoners, 1854,	$68,901 83

The appropriation by Councils for the year 1855, was $70,871.

The great increase in the price of all the necessaries of life during the present year, must necessarily increase the expenses of the prison, but it is thought the appropriation made will be sufficient to meet all expenses, except the alteration of the furnaces.

Accompanying this will be found two tables, showing the offences for which persons were committed, from June 1, 1853, to May 31, 1854, and from June 1, 1854, to May 1, 1855.

Upon reference to the tables, it will be seen that a great decrease has taken place in many grades of crime, since June 1, 1854, compared with the year preceding.

From June 1, 1853, to May 31, 1854, there were, for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, 6,079 commitments, and from June 1, 1854, to May 1, 1855, but 4,070, showing a great decrease in the number of commitments for that class of offences directly traceable to intemperance. During the last eleven months, from June 1, 1854, to May 1, 1855, 1,413 persons were committed for vagrancy, while during the year ending May 31, 1854 there were but 894. A careful examination of these tables will elicit much valuable information in relation to criminal statistics, and will show the increase and decrease of the various crimes during the last twenty-three months.

The officers of the prison are are as follows:

Superintendent, - - -	Salary, -	$1,200 00
Clerk, - - - -	" - -	1,000 00
Physician, - - - -	" - -	800 00
Resident Physician, - -	" - -	500 00
Moral Instructor, - - -	" - -	500 00
Prison Agent, - - -	" - -	900 00
Driver, - - - -	" - -	500 00

UNTRIED DEPARTMENT.

One Fireman, - - -	Salary, -	$450 00
Deputy Superintendent, -	" - -	900 00
Assistant Deputy Superintendent,	" - -	700 00
Gate Keeper, - - -	" - -	700 00
Three Inside Keepers, each $700,	" - -	2,100 00
Two Night Watchmen, each $500,	" - -	1,000 00
Two Runners, each $500, -	" - -	1,000 00
Sunday Watchman, - -	" - -	78 00

Convict Department.

Deputy Superintendent, -	Salary, -	$900 00
Gate Keeper, - - -	" - -	700 00
Six Keepers, two at $800, three at $700, one at $750, - - -	Salaries, -	4,450 00
Two Night Watchmen, at $500,	" - -	1,000 00

Hospital.

One Keeper, - - -	Salary, -	$450 00

Female Department.

Matron, - - - -	Salary, -	$450 00
Assistant Matron, - -	" - -	450 00
Male Keeper, - - -	" - -	700 00
Night Watchman, - -	" - -	500 00

Cooking Department.

Baker, - - - -	Salary, -	$500 00
Cook, - - - -	" - -	500 00

Debtors' Apartment.

Keeper, - - - -	Salary, -	$700 00

The total number of persons employed as officers of the prison is thirty-five; and the amount of salaries paid, twenty-three thousand six hundred and twenty-eight dollars per annum, - - - - - - - - $23,628 00

The Debtors' Apartment.

Prior to the organization of the present Board of Inspectors, this department was under the exclusive management of the Sheriff and County Commissioners, the former appointed the keeper, and the latter furnished the supplies.

The Sheriff still claims the appointment of the keeper, but the Inspectors of the prison are required by law to see to the proper management of that part of the prison, and are also required to visit it at least once a week for that purpose. As the keeper is not appointed by the Inspectors, that officer considers himself accountable only to the power that appointed him; thus while the Inspectors are accountable by law for the proper management and keeping of the Debtors' Apartment, a conflict of jurisdiction exists, which causes great confusion in the proper discipline of that department. Under the present arrangement it is nothing more than a large boarding house, kept up at an expense of nearly two thousand dollars per annum, for the confinement of about an average of four prisoners, or 1,300 days' imprisonment during the year.

By the act of April 4th, 1792, the Inspectors of the Philadelphia County Prison, were made Inspectors of the Debtors' Apartment, and all subsequent acts confer the same power upon them. For what cause, or at what time this power was surrendered to the County Commissioners I have been unable to ascertain.

That the expenses from July 1, 1854, to April 1, 1855, may be clearly shown, I copy the following statement from the books of the prison in a condensed form.

Paid keeper of Debtors' Apartment, 938 days' board, of county prisoners, from July 1, 1854, to April 1, 1855, at 43 cents per day, -	$403 34
For cleaning and whitewashing, same period, -	52 50
" 9 months' salary, at $700, - - - - -	525 00
" lumber, - - - - - - - -	1 60
" difference in stoves, - - - - -	6 00
" 8½ bbls, soft soap, - - - - -	6 00
" 81 yards muslin, for sheets, - - -	12 15
" repairs, &c., - - - - - -	2 14
	$1,008 73

In addition to which, the following amounts have been paid by the City Treasurer for coal, wood, and oil, delivered at Debtors' Apartment:

For coal, - - - - - - - -	$145 00
" oil, say, - - - - - - - -	60 00
" wood, - - - - - - - -	90 60

Making the 938 days' imprisonment cost the city $1,304 33

or $1,$\frac{40}{100}$ per day for each day's board of the prisoners whose board is properly chargeable to the city.

There are other prisoners confined in this department, sent there by the United States Marshal, but as the keeper charges the board of such to the United States government, and receives all the amount for his own benefit, the county pays the expense of keeping up this department, and the whole cost is thrown on the city treasury. It is a matter well worthy of consideration, as to whether this department ought not to be abolished, and the prisoners transferred to the county prison, where they could be under the immediate supervision of the Board of Inspectors. By this arrangement the expense of a keeper would be saved, and the Debtors'

Apartment would make a suitable police station for the lower wards of the city.

Two large rooms are vacant in the untried department of the prison, that could be appropriated for this class of prisoners.

Having herein given in a detailed manner the information desired, I beg leave to refer you to the report of the board for such information as I have omitted in the foregoing statement.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD Y. FARQUHAR,

President of Board of Inspectors.

A TABLE,

Showing the Number of Commitments to the Philadelphia County Prison (Moyamensing) from June 1, 1853, to May 31, 1854.

CRIMES.	Males.	Females.
Adultery,	11	14
Assault,	42	18
Asssault to murder,	59	2
Assault to commit a rape,	4	
Assault and battery,	1233	379
Absconding apprentice,	41	
Abuse, and abuse and threatening,	253	167
Arson,	11	
Bawdy house,	4	11
Bigamy,	17	3
Burglary,	31	
Concealed weapons,	42	
Conspiracy,	17	1
Contempt of court,	2	
Amount carried forward,	1767	595

CRIMES.	Males.	Females.
Amount brought forward,	1767	595
Contempt of magistrate,	3	
Disorderly house,	38	40
Disorderly, and for breaches of the peace,	2599	1505
Disobedient apprentices,	18	1
Deserting his family, and abusing his wife,	54	
Desertion from vessel,	7	
Defrauding and cheating,	72	4
Forcible entry,	7	1
Forgery,	13	
Fornication,	1	
Fornication and bastardy,	20	
Fugitive slaves,	1	1
Fugitives from justice,	10	
Gaming house and gambling,	3	
Highway robbery,	10	
Indecency,	17	5
Intoxication,	1681	294
Lottery Policy,	5	
Malicious mischief,	77	24
Misdemeanor, not otherwise enumerated,	323	46
Murder,	10	
Mutiny,	2	
Nuisance,	15	10
Perjury,	6	1
Profanity and profane swearing,	4	
Passing counterfeit notes and coins,	33	1
Rape,	1	
Receiving stolen goods,	12	2
Riot,	112	1
Robbery,	17	7
Amount carried forward,	6938	2538

CRIMES.	Males.	Females.
Amount brought forward,	6938	2538
Seduction, - - - - - -	2	
Sentenced, *not to hard* labor, - -	70	7
Stealing, - - - - - -	720	192
Suspicious persons, - - - -	3	1
Tippling houses, - - - - -	11	2
To await judgment, - - - -	20	2
Vagrants, - - - - - -	454	440
Total, - - - -	8218	3182

12 months, - -	8218 males,
" " - -	3182 females.
Total, -	11,400

A TABLE,

Showing the Number of Commitments to the Philadelphia County Prison (Moyamensing) from June 1, 1854, *to May* 1, 1855.

CRIMES.	Males.	Females.
Adultery, - - - - - -	11	2
Assault, - - - - - -	18	2
Assault to murder, - - - -	19	1
Assault to commit a rape, - - -	12	
Assault and battery, - - - -	1181	225
Absconding apprentice, - - -	18	1
Assault to rescue, - - - -	1	
Abuse, and abuse and threatening, -	249	88
Arson, - - - - - -	13	4
Bawdy house, - - - - -	1	13
Amount carried forward,	1523	336

CRIMES.	Males.	Females.
Amount brought forward,	1523	336
Bigamy,	5	1
Burglary,	20	1
Conspiracy,	16	2
Contempt of Court,	2	1
Contempt of magistrate,	2	
Disorderly house,	17	33
Disorderly, and for breaches of the peace,	1896	706
Disobedient apprentices,	15	
Deserting his family, and abusing his wife,	84	
Desertion from vessel,	29	
Defrauding and cheating,	22	2
Foreible entry,	3	2
Forgery,	4	
Fornieation,	10	1
Fornieation and bastardy,	46	
Fugitive slaves,	1	
Fugitives from justiee,	17	
Gaming house and gambling,	6	
Highway robbery,	7	
Indeceney,	3	1
Intoxication,	1225	243
Malicious mischief,	59	16
Misdemeanor, not otherwise enumerated,	495	73
Murder,	43	7
Mail robbery,	1	
Nuisanee,	7	2
Perjury,	5	3
Passing counterfeit notes and eoin,	46	5
Rape,	14	
Receiving stolen goods,	9	2
Amount carried forward,	5632	1437

CRIMES.	Males.	Females.
Amount brought forward,	5632	1437
Riot, - - - - - - - -	145	
Robbery, - - - - - - -	8	
Sentenced for assault and battery, -	41	2
Stealing, - - - - - - -	824	201
Suspicious persons, - - - -	11	1
Tippling houses, - - - - -	8	9
Vagrants, - - - - - - -	894	519
Total, - - - -	7563	2169

11 months, - - 7563 males,
" " - - 2169 females.

Total, - 9732

Debtors' Apartment—Keeper's Bills.

September 30, 1854.

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,

To J. M. CHRISTOPHER, DR.

To 3 months' salary, due September 30, 1854,					$175 00
3 Do Cleaning and whitewashing, -					17 50
Board of D. McBride,	13	days at	43	cents,	5 59
Do J. Turner,	54	do	43	do	23 22
Do S. Clark,	10	do	43	do	4 30
Do J. Jolyn,	2	do	43	do	86
Do W. Edwards,	12	do	43	do	5 16
Do Lydia Barlow,	7	do	43	do	3 01
Do J. Southern,	8	do	43	do	3 44
Do A. Githens,	13	do	43	do	5 59
Do J. Clements,	35	do	43	do	15 05
Amount carried forward, - -					$258 72

	Amount brought forward,				- -	$258 72
Board of	C. H. Bates,	35	days at	43	cents,	15 05
Do	C. Devereux,	1	do	43	do	43
Do	C. Dougherty,	11	do	43	do	4 73
Do	A. Williams,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do	M. Wallace,	2	do	43	do	86
Do	W. Nicholson,	12	do	43	do	5 16
Do	C. Daily	5	do	43	do	2 15
Do	W. Dougherty,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do	T. Miller,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do	S. Irvine,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do	R. Taylor,	2	do	43	do	86
Do	J. Schriver,	1	do	43	do	43
Do	W. P. Smith,	5	do	43	do	2 15
Do	C. Wilson,	9	do	43	do	3 87
Do	J. Hamilton,	19	do	43	do	8 17
Do	E. Hamilton,	19	do	43	do	8 17
Do	C. Noll,	1	do	43	do	43
Do	Ann Rodgers,	8	do	43	do	3 44
Do	N. Gill,	4	do	43	do	1 72
Do	M. Savage,	4	do	43	do	1 72
Do	J. Irwin,	11	do	43	do	4 73
Do	H. Stokes,	7	do	43	do	3 01
Do	J. Monahan,	6	do	43	do	2 58
		328 days.				
$2\frac{1}{2}$ barrels of Soft Soap,					- - - -	1 50
Amount paid on account of Stoves,					- -	6 00
						$341 04

December 16, 1854.

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,

To J. M. CHRISTOPHER, DR.

To 3 months' salary, due December 31, 1854,							$175 00
3	Do	Cleaning and whitewashing,					17 50
Board of	Jane Hamilton,	44	days at	43	cents,		$18 92
Do	Eliza Hamilton,	44	do	43	do		18 92
Do	Joseph Irvin,	53	do	43	do		22 79
Do	Geo. Simpson,	4	do	43	do		1 72
Do	Sarah Southerton,	29	do	43	do		12 47
Do	Jos. Groatz,	2	do	43	do		86
Do	Charles Boyd,	17	do	43	do		28 81
Do	R. C. Gordon,	2	do	43	do		86
Do	John Lauson,	6	do	43	do		2 58
Do	H. Duffy,	1	do	43	do		43
Do	C. McCoy,	2	do	43	do		86
Do	J. Hoover,	6	do	43	do		2 58
Do	C. Heffron,	1	do	43	do		43
Do	J. Wood,	2	do	43	do		86
Do	P. Fagan,	1	do	43	do		43
Do	J. Turbin,	1	do	43	do		43
Do	A. Malone,	10	do	43	do		4 30
Do	J. Colter,	10	do	43	do		4 30
Do	W. Reeves,	1	do	43	do		43
Do	J. Wood,	2	do	43	do		86
Do	M. Wolverton,	2	do	43	do		86
Do	W. W. Myers,	1	do	43	do		43
Do	J. Watt,	3	do	43	do		1 29
		294 days.					
81 yards Muslin, for account, at 15 cents,						-	12 15
4½ barrels of Soft Soap,						-	3 00
Paid for Fire Bricks, and Mending Grate,						-	2 00
Sundries for Asst.,						-	14 00
							$336 21

Purchases made for the Debtors' Apartment, by the Inspectors of the Philadelphia County Prison, not included in the Keepers' Account, to wit: from July 1, 1854, to March 31, 1855.

Wood, - - - - - - - - -	$90 60
Coal, - - - - - - - - -	145 00
Oil, - - - - - - - - -	60 00
	$295 60

Debtors' Apartment—Keeper's Bill.

March 31, 1855.

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA,

To J. M. CHRISTOPHER, DR.

To 3 months' Salary, due March 31, - - -					$175 00
Cleansing and Whitewashing, - - - -					17 50
Board of C. Boyd,	94	days at	43	cents,	40 42
Do H. Hansley,	1	do	43	do	43
Do T. S. Starrs,	2	do	43	do	86
Do B. McGuire,	2	do	43	do	86
Do M. McGuire,	2	do	43	do	86
Do P. Welsh,	1	do	43	do	43
Do P. O'Donnell,	2	do	43	do	86
Do W. Mullen,	1	do	43	do	43
Do E. Blake,	2	do	43	do	86
Do J. Sixsmith,	2	do	43	do	86
Do E. Kelly,	4	do	43	do	1 72
Do J. Welsh,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do E. Sparks,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do M. Joy,	1	do	43	do	43
Do J. Major,	31	do	43	do	13 33
Amount carried forward, - -					257 43

	Amount brought forward,					257 43
Do	D. Mooney,	2	do	43	do	86
Do	C. Clarion,	2	do	43	do	86
Do	W. Fisher,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do	Peter Hagan,	2	do	43	do	86
Do	E. B. Mason,	2	do	43	do	86
Do	F. McCollough,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do	W. Burns,	2	do	43	do	86
Do	J. Dill,	37	do	43	do	15 91
Do	A. Geighamer,	3	do	43	do	1 29
Do	John Williams,	34	do	43	do	14 62
Do	M. Graham,	24	do	43	do	10 32
Do	D. McGory,	6	do	43	do	2 58
Do	R. Woods,	5	do	43	do	2 15
Do	J. Woods,	16	do	43	do	6 88
Do	W. Wilson,	11	do	43	do	4 73
Do	A. R. Clark,	6	do	43	do	2 58
Do	Michael Lee,	7	do	43	do	3 01
Lumber furnished, - - - - - -						1 60
2½ barrels Soft Soap, - - - - -						1 50
						$331 48

Report of the President of the Guardians of the Poor.

To the Honorable Robert T. Conrad,

Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:—In answer to the communication directed to the Department of Poor, desiring information upon several points therein named, I take occasion respectfully to answer as follows:

The (now) Department of the Poor of the City, existed long before the Act of Consolidation of 1854 was passed, as a separate corporation, under the title of "The Guardians for the Relief and Employment of the Poor of the City of Philadelphia, the District of Southwark, and the Townships of the Northern Liberties and Penn;" and at the time of the passage of the act specified, embraced the said City, the Districts of Southwark, Northern Liberties, Spring Garden, Kensington, Moyamensing, Penn, Richmond, and West Philadelphia, as also the Borough of Bridesburg, North Penn, and Unincorporated Northern Liberties; and was extended by the said act so as to include the District of Belmont, the Townships of Blockley, Kingsessing, and Passyunk, and by a late Ordinance of Councils, the Borough of Manayunk.

The corporation as it existed before it became a department of the city, was possessed of 187 acres of land, which originally cost - - - - - - - - $51,766 91
And the main buildings erected, cost - - 859,743 84

The net indebtedness of the corporation on account of the land and buildings, assumed by the city, as provided by said act of consolidation, was, from $600,000 to $650,000.

There was also a frame house, barn, and other necessary out buildings erected from time to time, as also the necessary

furniture and fixtures provided for the use of the house from the income of the corporation.

The corporation held sundry legacies in loans and stocks, to the amount of - - - - - - - $17,663 67
And sundry ground rents, amounting annually to 691 04
the proceeds of all which were specially appropriated by the donors.

It also had a cash balance of - - - $2,323 02

Available outstanding tax roll, which would net about - - - - - - - - - 20,000 00

There were also stocks on hand in the several departments, named on July 3d, 1854, as follows:

General House Store, at cost, - - -	$8,185 08
Drugs and Medicines, do - - -	2,453 45
Manufactory, in raw materials, - - -	2,025 45
Stock and produce on Farm, value, - -	4,471 00

The expenditures of the corporation for the year ending May 20, 1854, for the support of the institution, exclusive of interest on loans, are set forth in detail, on pages 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 20, 24, 27, 28 and 29 of the Pamphlet herewith sent, marked "A;"* the aggregate of which is $209,180 77, as shown on page 32 of the same.

The number of officers and persons employed, and their salaries, wages, &c., are particularly specified in the papers herewith annexed, but little variation having been made since they were prepared in accordance with a resolution of the Board, passed June 24th, 1854, as to either compensation or in number.

The foregoing, it is believed, answers substantially the requirements of the first stated point of inquiry.

The present condition of the department may be deduced from the foregoing, as it may be taken to be about the same as in July last, with the addition that there is an annual

* See printed "Statement of the Accounts of the Guardians of the Poor, for the year ending May 20, 1854."

income to it, from sources appertaining specially to it, see items of "House Receipts," "Emigrant Tax," "Fines," "Support, Bonded and Commuted Cases," and "Legacies," on page 33 of Pamphlet, amounting to about $30,000, which is collected by the Board and paid into the City Treasury.

A system of the strictest economy is adopted and carried out in all the departments, and in all that relates to the management of the department in general.

All the inmates capable of performing service of any kind are kept constantly employed for the benefit of the department. Some of those, whose services are deemed of any value beyond the cost of their support, are allowed a small compensation, from one dollar and upwards per month, as an encouragement to fidelity and prompt performance of the duty required.

The paper annexed, headed "Steward's Report," is intended to answer point No. 2.

The past expenses of the department is shown by the answer to first point of inquiry.

The current will largely exceed those of the year quoted, owing to circumstances which will readily occur, and will, perhaps the present year, reach the sum of $285,000, and the prospective expenses will very much depend upon occurrences which cannot well be anticipated. Depression in business generally, want of employment for the mechanical and laboring population, and long, severe winters will necessarily tend to swell the ordinary expenses of the department.

The above is deemed applicable to the third point of inquiry.

No results of improvements effected to report.

In the matter of the fifth inquiry, I take occasion to say, the Guardians have frequently spoken of the contemplated House of Correction as an important adjunct to the department in carrying out that portion of the original act establishing the institution as suggests the "Employment of the Poor."

No views to submit in regard to the department in reference to the promotion of the interests of the city, except such as may be drawn from the foregoing information and suggestion.

The subject of retrenchment in the expenses of the department, has repeatedly engaged the attention of the Board, and all the means adopted to that end, it is confidently believed, that can be devised without detriment to its interests: No expenses can be cut off, no officers can safely be dispensed with,—the number now employed, is the same as for many years past, though their duties have been much increased by the gradual and natural increase incident to the increase of population outside and inside, and other causes, as well as by the enlargement of the boundaries of the Poor district, from time to time, and by the act of consolidation.

The introduction of gas into the buildings as a light, was projected, and an application made to Councils for an appropriation for that object. This might be deferred without seriously affecting the interests of the department. No suggestions as to where and how the expenditures of the department may be curtailed, can be made.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

FREDERICK M. ADAMS,

President of the Board of Guardians of the Poor.

GUARDIANS' OFFICE, No. 36 North Seventh Street,
Philadelphia, May 12, 1855.

In the Employ of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, the Salaries paid, and the Perquisites allowed.

NAME.	OFFICE.	SALARY per Annum.	PERQUISITES.
Daniel Smith,	Steward,	$1200	Use of Dwelling, Furniture and Housekeeping Articles—Fuel, Light, Cream and Milk—with the privilege of the Table for Assistant Physicians and others.
A. B. Campbell,	Physician in Chief,	2000	Use of Dwelling, Stable and Garden, with Fuel.
Joseph Plankinton,	Clerk,	1000	None.
S. Snyder Leidy,	Secretary,	900	None.
Henry S. Hagert,	Solicitor,	800	
J. T. Hufnal,	Apothecary,	750	Lodging accommodations.
Henry Mather,	House Agent,	700	None.
John Linker,	Out Door Agent,	600	One hundred dollars per year, as Fees on Collections.
Rebecca Hugans,	Matron,	600	Use of Dwelling, Fuel, Light and Cream.
A. S. Small,	Farmer,	500	Use of Dwelling and Garden, Butter, Cream, Milk and Eggs—$3 50 per week for furnishing and boarding Dairy Maid, and $2 for boarding Assistant Farmer.
Wm. Graham,	Gardener,	550	Use of Dwelling, Fuel, Light, Milk and Vegetables.
John S. Fisher,	Storekeeper,	550	None.
William Wiler,	Engineer,	550	Boarding for Self.
Geo. E. Johnson,	Super't of Manufact'y,	500	None.
Wm. F. Bender,	Ass't Apothecary,	500	Dinners.
James Gillespie,	Leecher,	450	One cent for each Leech applied.

LIST OF OFFICERS

In the Employ of the Board of Guardians of the Poor, the Salaries paid, and the Perquisites allowed.

NAME.	OFFICE.	SALARY per Annum.	PERQUISITES.
Annie Robinson,	Matron Child'ns' Asy	400	Use of apartments, Boarding, Fuel, Light, and all necessaries.
Peter F. Wright,	Visitor of Children,	400	None.
Jemima Cowan,	Teacher of Children,	150	Boarding and Lodging.
William Smith,	Baker,	365	None.
Absalom Taylor,	Doorkeeper,	420	Use of House, Fuel and Milk.
Bernard Ginity,	Wagon Driver,	468	None.
David A. Cornog,	Visitor—City,	600	(Office Rent and Fuel Found.) None.
Edward Spain,	Do Sp. Garden,	500	Fifty dollars per year for Office Rent, besides Fuel for same.
James Lowrey,	Do N. Liberties,	500	Thirty do do do
James R. Negley,	Do Southwark,	500	Thirty do do do
Charles Hitchcock,	Do Kensington,	500	Thirty do do do
P. Reilly,	Do Moya'g,	500	Thirty do do do
Thomas Rutter,	Do Penn,	300	Thirty do do do
J. P. McSirley,	Do Richmond,	300	Thirty do do do
John T. Husler,	Do W. Phila.	300	Thirty do do do
R. W. Riche,	O. D. Physician,	100	City, None.
B. H. Rand,	Do	100	Do do
J. F. Cunningham,	Do	100	Do do
S. Chamberlain,	Do	100	Do do
T. F. McKean,	Do	100	Northern Liberties, do

Cortland Cole,	Do	100	Do	do
Collin Arrott,	Do	100	Spring Garden,	do
S. P. Brown,	Do	100	Do	do
William Notson,	Do	100	Southwark,	do
G. W. Chambers,	Do	100	Do	do
H. Wadsworth,	Do	100	Kensington,	do
Hiram Dales,	Do	100	Do	do
Michael O'Hara,	Do	100	Moyamensing,	do
Wm. F. Patterson,	Do	100	Do	do
George W. Manson,	Do	100	Penn,	do
F. R. Blake,	Do	100	Richmond, &c.,	do
John M. Pugh,	Do	100	West Philadelphia,	do
J. C. Turnpenny,	O. D. Apotheeary,	80	City,	do
A. W. Parsons,	Do	80	Do	do
William M. Bowen,	Do	80	Northern Liberties,	do
John Hocker, Jr.,	Do	80	Spring Garden,	do
Daniel Laws,	Do	80	Do	do
John Roe,	Do	80	Kensington,	do
William King,	Do	80	Do	do
John Harder,	Do	80	Southwark,	do
R. H. Wevill,	Do	80	Moyamensing,	do
Robert Killduff,	Do	80	Do	do
Charles S. Peall,	Do	80	Richmond, &c.,	do
P. Neiskey,	Do	80	Penn,	do
Worrells & Stewart,	Do	80	West Philadelphia,	do

STEWARD'S REPORT

Of all the Persons employed by him in the various Departments of the Institution, who do not receive their pay by Orders drawn on the Treasurer, together with the Perquisites allowed to each.

NAME.	EMPLOYMENT.	Monthly Compensation in Money.	PERQUISITES.
Hospital Department.			
William O'Niel,	Nurse of Men's Medical Ward,	$14 00	Boarding drawn from the Store separately.
William Forbes,	do Surgical do [Eye Ward,	14 00	do do do
Patrick Wood,	Nurse of black and white Men's Venereal and	16 00	do do do
Robert Rose,	Watchman Men's Medical Ward,	9 00	do do do
Christian Alten,	Assistant do do	4 00	Boarding at General Table in Men's Hospital.
Sarah Lane,	Superintendent Female Hospital,	15 00	do Nurse's Table in Women's Hospital.
Catharine Heck,	Nurse Female Medical Ward,	12 00	do do do
Martha Houston,	do Surgical do	9 00	do do do
Mary A. Jackson,	do Venereal do	12 00	do do do
Elizabeth Thompson,	Watchwoman Female Hospital,	9 00	do do do
Margaret Love,	Nurse, white Obst. Ward,	12 00	do drawn from the Store separately,
Maria Lafferty,	Nurse, white Nursery Ward,	9 00	do do do
Hannah Kane,	Nurse, colored Nursery Ward, [House,	4 00	do do do
William Lane,	Superintendent of the Receiving Ward & Green	18 00	do at Nurse's Table in Women's Hospital.
Rachael Riley,	Keeper of Female Receiving Ward,	3 00	do do do

Samuel S. Correy,	Apothecary's Messenger,	5 00	do	in Runner's Room.
Edward Law,	Assistant Nurse in the Men's Drunkard's Ward,	5 00	do	at General Table in Men's Hospital.
Samuel Wallace,	Watchman in the Apothecary's Shop,	2 00	do	in Runner's Room.
Jeremiah Williams,	Nurse in the Male Ulcer Ward,	1 00	do	do
Fanny Armstrong,	Hospital Washerwoman,	2 00	do	at General Table in Women's Hospital.
Lunatic Department.				
John Hill,	Nurse in the Male Lunatic Asylum,	14 00	do	at Nurse's Table in Male L. Asy'm.
James Ross,	do do do	14 00	do	do do
Robert Niblock,	do do do	14 00	do	do do
William Renwick,	do do do	14 00	do	do do
John Nelson,	do do do	10 00	do	do do
John Lyons,	Assistant do do	6 00	do	do do
Edward Gallagher,	Watchman do do	6 00	do	do do
William Blair,	Gardener do do	14 00	do	do do
Mary Downie,	Superintendent Female Lunatic Asylum,	9 00	do	do in Female L. Asy'm.
Mary Blake,	Nurse do do	9 00	do	do do
Mary Williams,	do do do	9 00	do	do do
Rose McCloskey,	do do do	9 00	do	do do
Mary Ross,	do do do	9 00	do	do do
Augusta Bedeman,	do do do	9 00	do	do do
Elizabeth Platt,	do do do	9 00	do	do do
Maria Dorsey,	do do do	5 00	do	Assistant's do
Catharine Sullivan,	Assistant do do	6 00	do	do do
Catharine Ludwick,	Watchwoman do do	6 00	do	do do
Albert Lewis,	Male Cook do do	3 00	do	in the Kitchen Lunatic Asylum.
Lydia Smith,	Female Cook do do	3 00	do	Assistant's do
Susan Robb,	Washerwoman do do	2 00	do	do do
Lydia Agen,	Washerwoman for Male Lunatic Asylum,	2 00	do	do do
Elizabeth Kirk,	do Nurses do	2 00	do	do do

NAME.	EMPLOYMENT.	Monthly Compensation in Money.	PERQUISITES.
Almshouse Department.			
William Lawrence,	Cook in the Runner's Room,	$3 00	Boarding in Runner's Room.
Jeremiah Elfreth,	General Watchman,	14 00	do drawn from the Store separately.
Spencer Moffett,	Matron's Messenger,	8 00	do do do
Mary Ann Moffett,	Female Cell Keeper and Clothing Cutter,	6 00	do do do [extra.
David Caldwell,	Agent's Clerk,	15 00	do at Nurse's table, M. L. A., and clothing
Catharine Steward,	Cook in the Female General Kitchen,	5 00	do in Women's A. H. General Kitchen.
Thomas Johnson,	Carriage Driver,	4 00	do in Runner's Room, and clothing extra.
Hamilton Wilson,	Capt. of the Hall,	3 00	do do do
William Smith,	do Yard,	4 00	do drawn from store separately & cloth'g.
Samuel Douglass,	do Workingmen's Wing, and Cell Keeper,	4 00	do Runner's Room, and clothing.
Isaac G. Hannum,	Nurse of Old Men's Infirmary,	4 00	do drawn from store separately & cloth'g.
Margaret Shuster,	do Blind Men's Ward and Lodging Rooms	4 00	do do do
Margaret McDonald,	do Boys' Ward,	2 00	do do do
Ann E. Green,	do Blind Women's Ward, 1st Story,	4 00	do in the Old Women's Dining Room.
Sarah Stokes,	do Old Women's Asylum, do	4 00	do do do
Sophia Palmer,	do do do 2d do	4 00	do do do
Adrn. Brillenberger,	do do do do do	3 00	do do do
Isabella McKeen,	do Working Women's Wards, 3d Story,	4 00	do do do
Mary Marshall,	do Colored Incurable Ward,	2 00	do drawn from store separate, and cloth'g.
Mary Biscopink,	Cook in the Old Women's Asylum,	3 00	do in the Old Women's Kitchen.
Catharine Eagan,	Assistant do do Dining Room,	2 00	do do do
Elizabeth Williams,	Cook in the Washerwomen's do	2 00	do in the Washerwoman's Dining Room.
Iredell Comley,	do Men's General do	5 00	do in the Men's A. H. General Kitchen, and clothing.

Mary A. Stafford,	Men's General Washerwoman,	2	00	do	drawn from store separate, and cloth'g.
Margaret Taylor,	Women's do do	2	00	do	in Washerwoman's Kitchen, & cloth'g.
Sarah Smith,	Steward's do	2	00	do	do do
Ann Dougherty,	Matron's do	2	00	do	do do
John Morrison,	Blanket Washer,	2	00	do	in Runner's Room, do
Margaret Royer,	Hall Maid,	2	00	do	in Washerwoman's Kitchen, do
Eliz. Fisher,	Milk and Butter Woman,	1	00	do	drawn from store separate, and cloth'g,
Thomas Shinn,	Keeper of the Clothing Room,	2	00	do	in Runner's Room, do
Jacob Wunder,	Butcher,	2	00	do	do do
Charles Ellis,	Assistant Baker,	2	00	do	do do
William Murry,	do do	2	00	do	do do
Charles Getz,	Almshouse Gate Keeper,	3	00	do	drawn from store separate, do
Isaac Dempster,	Hearse Driver,	2	00	do	in Runner's Room, do
John Mullen,	Carter,	2	00	do	do do
Gill Thompson,	Assistant Door Keeper,	1	00	do	do do
Gotlieb Kohler,	Agent's Messenger,	1	00	do	do do
Daniel McCleary,	Superintendent of the Potatoes and Ice,	2	00	do	do do
James Riley,	Whitewasher,	2	00	do	do do
John D. Smith,	do	2	00	do	do do
John Haws,	Superintendent of the Scrubbers and Cleaners,	2	00	do	do do
Thomas N. Penrose,	Ferryman,	10	00	do	drawn from store separate, do
Washington Atkins,	Assistant Farmer,	12	00	do	with the Farmer.
Charles Young,	do at the Stationary Engine,	2	00	do	in the Runner's Room, and clothing.
William Dean,	Factory Clerk,	5	00	do	do do
William McMickin,	Foreman of the Tailors' Shop,	2	50	do	do do
Alexander Bowman,	do do Shoemakers' Shp,	2	50	do	do do
Robert Cochran,	do do Weavers' Shop,	3	00	do	do do
Charles Wilson,	do do Tinsmiths' Shop,	2	00	do	do do
William Lucas,	Soap Boiler,	5	00	do	do do

STEWARD'S REPORT—*continued.*

NAME.	EMPLOYMENT.	Monthly Compensation in Money.	PERQUISITES.
Childrens' Asylum Dept't.			
Ann Nelson,	Seamstress,	6 00	Boarding in the Children's Asylum.
Julia Ellworth,	Cook,	6 00	do do do
Margaret Moody,	Nurse,	6 00	do do do
Margaret Downey,	Nursery Maid,	6 00	do do do
Margaret Paeker,	Chamber do	4 00	do do do
Margaret Judge,	do do	4 00	do do do
Eliza Rowan,	do do	4 00	do do do
Elizabeth Kelley,	do do	3 00	do do do
Steward's Office.			
Charles Wayue,	Steward's Clerk,	5 00	do at the Nurse's Table in the L. A., and elothing.
James Barnes,	Guardian's and Steward's Waiter,	8 00	do in the Steward's Kitchen.

The drawings furnished to those who have their diet separate, are as follows (exeept Messrs. Penrose and Elfrey), viz: one pound sugar, one-half pound eoffee, one-eighth pound tea, one pound flour, one-half pint milk, one-half pint molasses, one-half pint vinegar, one and one-half pound bread, one-quarter pound soap, one-half pint salt, two ounces pepper, one-half pound butter and one pound beef. The bread and beef are furnished daily, all the others weekly.

Mr. Penrose draws two pounds sugar, one pound eoffee, one quart molasses, one pound soap, one quart salt, two pounds flour, one quart vinegar, three pints oil, one pound butter, weekly; three pounds bread and one pint milk, daily; and the proeeeds of the Ferry, amount not known.

Mr. Elfreth draws three and one-half pounds sugar, one pound eoffee, four ounces tea, two pounds flour, one quart molasses, one pt. vinegar, one pt. salt, one quart oil, one pound soap and one pound butter, weekly; three pounds bread and one pt. milk daily.

The above I believe to be a correct statement of the Salaries and Perquisites, together with their Employments. All of whieh is respeetfully submitted.

Very Respeetfully, yours, &c.,

DANIEL SMITH, *Steward.*

Report of Physician in Chief of Philadelphia H. & A. H.

PHILADELPHIA HOSPITAL AND ALMSHOUSE,
May 10th, 1855.

SIR: — In reply to your order of the 9th instant, I have the honor to state — there are in the lunatic department of this institution, three hundred and sixty-two patients, of whom 135 are males, and 227 are females. The following table shows their birth-places:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Philadelphia,	26	53	79
Pennsylvania,	5	9	14
New Jersey,	2	6	8
Delaware,	5	6	11
Maryland,	2	1	3
Virginia,	1	2	3
New York,	1	4	5
Massachusetts,		1	1
Connecticut,	1		1
Ohio,		1	1
South Carolina,		1	1
Total—United States,	43	84	127
Ireland,	58	108	166
Germany,	21	27	48
England and Scotland,	6	7	13
France,		1	1
Canada,	1		1
Martinique,	1		1
Italy,	1		1
Russia,	1		1
Amount carried forward,	89	143	232

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Amount carried forward,	89	143	232
Prussia, - - - - -	1		1
Calcutta, - - - -	1		1
Belgium, - - - -	1		1
Total—foreigners, - -	92	143	235
" natives, - -	43	84	127
	135	227	

Total—males and females, 362.

Of the 135 males, but 58, and of the 227 females, but 110—being, in all, only 168, in the whole number, (362,) or less than one-half, who claim a settlement in the city of Philadelphia; and this number would, doubtless, be considerably diminished, by a rigid scrutiny into each case.

The same, or even a greater disproportion, exists in the Hospital and in the Almshouse. On the first of May, there were in the house—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Blacks.
Natives of the U. S., -	171	181	149	
Foreigners, - -	744	559	92	
	915	740	241	141

Whites, 1996; Blacks, 141. Total Whites and Blacks, 2037

It is impossible, on so short a notice, to discover the number of those who have legally a settlement in this city; but enough is known to satisfy me that they are even fewer, in proportion to the whole number, than in the Lunatic Asylum alone.

It may well be a question, whether this city should bear this burden independently, or whether the State should not

assume its share of the expense. If she should do so in regard to the paupers—much more so in the case of lunatics, who, whether helpless or dangerous, call forth the sympathies of the whole State.

It seems to me, sir, that the question may with great propriety be agitated, whether the State should, or should not, assume the entire charge of its whole pauper lunatic population. The association of chiefs of lunatic asylums have laid it down, as an axiom, that more than 250 lunatics cannot be treated with propriety in one building. Here there are 362. The Asylum is kept scrupulously clean and neat, the beds are comfortable, the wards well ventilated, and the food is well cooked. Those of the patients who will work, are kept employed about the house, or in the garden designed for that purpose. Some few amusements are afforded to them. But yet, far from all is done for them that ought to be done, and could be done, with the proper means and larger grounds. We cannot, in such an immense establishment, and surrounded with so many other interests, do all for the restoration of reason, that humanity and duty requires from the community. To treat them properly, requires that they should be removed from all disturbing causes, and surrounded with temptations to gentle and pleasurable amusemennts; and to accomplish this, it seems to me essential that they should be removed altogether from connection or association with an almshouse.

All which is submitted by,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. CAMPBELL,

Physician in Chief.

To his Honor, R. T. CONRAD,

Mayor of Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA HOSPITAL AND ALMSHOUSE,
May 15*th*, 1855.

SIR:—By the kindness of Dr. T. E. Eastman, of Boston, I am enabled to state—

1st. The State of Massachusetts, takes charge of all paupers not having a legal settlement in some town within its borders.

2d. Formerly each town took care of the state paupers within its jurisdiction, and charged the state for their support.

3d. One year ago, this month, almshouses built by the state were opened, and since then the state pays no bills for support in the county almshouses.

4th. Some of the county almshouses are for sale, having been drained entirely of paupers.

5th. In Boston, aid is furnished to the out-door poor, only in winter, except in cases of sickness or disability.

6th. The "overseers of the poor," elected in the wards, have the charge, only of the out-door poor.

7th. The City Councils choose one Board of Directors of the Poor House, and another for the Lunatic Hospital.

8th. All persons coming to either the "Overseers of the Poor," or the Directors of the Poor House, not having a settlement in the city of Boston, are sent to the state Institutions. The result is somewhat remarkable as is shown by the following figures.

Number of persons, relieved or supported in Boston, as paupers, during 1854, - - - - -	9,542
Number of these having a settlement in the commonwealth of Massachusetts, - - - - -	815

Number of *State* paupers, - - - - - -	8,727
" " foreigners, - - -	6,894
" " English and Irish, - -	5,729
" of paupers relieved, *in the almshouse*, in 1854, - - - - - - - - - -	4,473
Average number (reduced by the establishment of the State Institutions to less than two hundred at the present time,) - - - - - -	829
Average cost of each person, weekly, - - -	$1 55
Number of paupers probably made so by intemperance in themselves or others, - - -	7 159

Regretting my inability to make a similar statement in relation to this institution,

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. CAMPBELL,
Physician in Chief.

To Hon. R. T. Conrad,
Mayor of Philadelphia.

Report of Commissioner of City Property.

Robert T. Conrad,
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

Dear Sir :—Your communication of the 1st of May, 1855, has been duly received, and I beg leave to say that a temporary indisposition has prevented my acknowledging it at an earlier date.

In conformity with the specified requirements, permit me to state in answer to your first interrogatory, that the condition of the department under my supervision at the time of organization, was sound and effectual. That the appropriations for the year 1854, under the old administration, amounted to about $35,000, which was amply sufficient to defray the expenses contemplated at the time the Consolidated Act took place. That the rents had been received and paid over to the City Treasurer, with the exception of $1,250 still remaining due from the Atlantic Railroad Company.

The names and salaries of the officers, belonging at that time to this department, you will find explicitly set for in paper No. 1.

Your Second, Third, and Fourth Interrogatories, not permitting severally a detailed reply, I have classed them under one general head. The appropriations for this department, between the 1st of October, 1854, and the 1st of January, 1855, amounted to $35,000, all of which was expended for specific purposes, with the exception of $4,385 07, which was on the 1st of January transferred to the general account.

On the 16th of February, 1855, an appropriation was made for $78,181 31, all of which has been disbursed, with the exception of $42,491 70. This increase of appropriations has been occasioned, in order to meet the payment of contracts entered into by the different districts, on the eve of the Consolidated Act; and, to enable the department to meet the payment of sundry improvements, some of which are now in progress, and others in prospect of execution, say, Hunting Park, Norris Square, Lemon Hill Estate, all of which, I think, under the existence of the present state of Finances of the city, might, with benefit, be deferred, until a more favorable period.

In conformity with an ordinance of Councils, dated 20th of August, 1854, the number of officers in this department

has been increased, a list of which you will find in paper No. 2. The number cannot, in my opinion, admit of any diminution, each officer having an appropriated duty to perform that cannot be neglected.

Fifthly.—I should esteem it presumptuous on my part, to attempt to dictate to Councils what course they should pursue, but at any time when my information would be available on any particular point, it will afford me pleasure to furnish any statement that would promote the interests of the city.

In reply to your subjoined request, I submit a schedule of City Property, in paper No. 3.

Very respectfully,

JOHN DIEHL,
Commissioner of City Property.

Paper No. 1.

Commissioner of City Property, John Diehl, -	$1,200 00
Clerk of Tobacco Warehouse, Wm. E. Ewing, -	900 00
Inspector of Tobacco, George Kane, - -	900 00
Watchman at Tobacco Warehouse, Wm. Williams,	360 00
Superintendent of Washington Square, E. Shain,	1,100 00
Superintendent of Franklin Square, A. D. Curran,	1,100 00
Superintendent of Independence Square, George Jeffries, - - - - - - - -	850 00
Superintendent of Rittenhouse Square, J. Walker,	625 00
Superintendent of Penn Square, James Boyd, -	625 00
Superintendent of Logan Square, Pat'k Kerevan,	625 00

The Superintendents of the Squares are on contract, and obliged to pay all the expenses of the square, which causes the highness of their salaries.

Superintendent of City Burial Ground, - -	$600 00
Watchman at Market street Bridge, J. McIntyre,	450 00
Watchman at Market street Bridge, - - -	450 00

JOHN DIEHL,

Commissioner of City Property.

May 14*th*, 1855.

Paper No. 2.

John Diehl, Commissioner of City Property, -	$1,500 00
Edward Shain, Collector of City Rental, -	1,000 00
Wm. H. McCalla, Clerk of Tobacco Warehouse,	800 00
Lewis Burk, Inspector of Tobacco, - - -	800 00
Wm. Williams, Watchman at Tobacco Warehouse,	360 00
John Coats, Messenger, - - - - - -	500 00
W. Moran, Sr., Superintendent Independence Hall,	700 00
Wesley Ballinger, City Carpenter, - - -	1,000 00
Jos. Bickley, Watchman, State House Steeple, -	500 00
Isaac McKeever, do do do	500 00
James Dowling, do do do	500 00
Wm. Russell, do do Row, -	500 00
Samuel Barry, do do do -	500 00
George R. Chapman, Watchman at Wire Bridge,	500 00
Edward T. Miller, do do -	500 00
Wm. H. Walker, Janitor of Spring Garden Hall,	500 00
Hiram Massey, do West Philadelphia Hall,	500 00
Rittenhouse Fraley, do Germantown Hall, -	300 00
Margaret Smith, do Kensington Hall, -	400 00
Geo. McCully, care of 2d and High St. Clock, -	100 00
Wm. H. Riggs, care of Chestnut street Clock,-	200 00
G. Dixson, Superintendent of City Burial Ground,	500 00
A. D. Curran, do Franklin Square, - -	600 00

Geo. Jeffries,	Superintendent	Independence Square,	$600 00
Isaac Watson,	do	Washington Square, -	600 00
John Walker,	do	Rittenhouse Square, -	600 00
Wm. G. Lybrand,	do	Penn Square, - -	600 00
Peter Clew,	do	Logan Square, - -	600 00
Peter Rutter,	do	Jefferson Square, - -	600 00

JOHN DIEHL,
Commissioner of City Property.

May 14*th*, 1855.

Paper No. 3.

A SCHEDULE OF CITY PROPERTY.

Old City Property.

1. A house at the corner of Twenty-second and Cherry streets.
2. Two houses on Race street.
3. One house on Fifth street, between Race and Vine streets.
4. Four houses on Crown street, north of Race street.
5. Four houses on Richardson's court.
6. A church and school-house on the west side of Crown street, north of Race street.
7. A lot on Jones and Sixteenth streets, 106 feet on Sixteenth street, by 182 feet on Jones and Filbert streets, encumbered for $25,000.
8. A lot on the north side of Chestnut street, extending from Aspin to Twenty-second street, 180 feet on Chestnut street, by 163 feet on Twenty-second street.
9. A lot on Twenty-first street, between High and Chestnut streets, 130 feet on Twenty-first street, by 180 feet to Aspin street.

10. A lot on the south side of Vine street, extending from Twenty-first to Twenty-second street, 396 feet on Vine street, by 102 feet deep.
11. A lot on the west side of Twenty-first street, commencing 204 feet from the south side of Vine street, 112 feet on Twenty-first street, by 396 feet, to Twenty-second street.

District of Southwark.

12. Southwark Hall lot, 85 feet on Second street, by 95 feet deep, to Sutherland street.
13. The Hall on the lot is 60 feet by 45 feet, subject to a ground-rent of $332 33.
14. A strip of ground on the west side of Sutherland street, having a front of three feet on Christian street, extending north 114 feet.
15. Two lots on Carpenter street, (north side,) on which is a small brick and frame house.

District of Moyamensing.

16. Moyamensing Hall, situated on the south side of Christian street, between Ninth and Tenth streets.
17. A lot in Moyamensing.

District of Northern Liberties.

18. Northern Liberty Hall lot, 86½ feet on Third street, by 114 feet to Brook street.
19. The Hall is 46½ feet front, three stories high, with two storied back buildings, used for the office of clerk, treasurer, and committee-room.
20. A two story brick dwelling on Brook street.
21. The Mayor's office of the District also stands upon the same lot.

22. A two story dwelling on the south side, tenanted by John Dubree.
23. A lot on the north-east corner of Front and Noble streets, 89 feet on Front street and Washington Avenue, 149½ feet on Noble street.
24. On said lot is a brick house, two stories high, on the north-western corner, 18½ feet on Front street, by 36¼ feet deep.
25. A frame house on the same lot, 19 feet front on Front street, 20 feet deep, and two stories high.

District of Kensington.

26. Kensington Hall and lot, 200 feet on Front street and Frankford road, by 200 feet on Master street, subject to a ground-rent of $200 per annum.
27. On the said lot is erected a Commissioners' Hall, offices of Treasurer, Register of Water Works, and Clerk.
28. A lot four feet deep.

District of Richmond.

29. Richmond Hall and lot of ground on which it stands, on the corner of Clearfield and West streets.

District of Penn.

30. A lot of ground, 395 feet on Master street, by 189 feet deep on Schuylkill Fourth and Fifth streets, to Seybert street.

District of Spring Garden.

31. A lot at the north-east corner of Callowhill and Twenty-first streets, 100 feet on Callowhill street, and 60 feet on Callowhill and Chestnut streets.

District of Germantown.

32. A lot containing four acres on Germantown avenue, on which is erected a hall and lock-up — bonds issued for $15,000.
33. A lot, corner of Germantown avenue and Mill street, used as a public square, containing eight and a-half acres.
34. A farm containing twenty acres, with sundry buildings fronting on the Schuylkill, subject to a mortgage of $3000.
35. A valuable farm of forty acres, with good improvements — title in the Overseers of the Poor, Roxborough, encumbered for $3,000.

Bridesburg.

36. A large frame building and two acres of ground.
37. A lot in Frankford district, containing 145 acres, occupied as a poorhouse.
38. A lot in Frankford, on which a market-house is erected.
39. Three small houses, fronting on Frankford street. The lot is 120 feet by 400 feet deep, encumbered for $8,000.
40. A lot of ground on which the gasometer is erected. On said lot are erected two frame buildings, a stone carpenter shop, and blacksmith shop, encumbered for $4,000.
41. A stone school-house and lot of ground in Bridesburg.

(E. E.)

JOHN DIEHL,
Commissioner of City Property.

PHILADELPHIA, *May* 14, 1855.

Report from the Gas Department.

Hon. Robert T. Conrad, *Mayor.*

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, I have the honor to present a report of the transactions and condition of the Gas Works belonging to the city of Philadelphia, embracing such statistical details as are deemed requisite to convey full information to Councils.

In the works known as the "City Gas Works," manufacturing operations were commenced in February, 1836, under the direction of Mr. Samuel V. Merrick, their original designer and engineer. In September of that year they were committed by the Board of Trustees, to the care of the undersigned, who has continued to manage them to the present time.

The daily production of gas when the works first came under my superintendence was fifteen thousand cubic feet, their maximum capacity was estimated to be seventy-five thousand feet per diem, the length of main pipes laid was about eight miles, and the number of customers using gas 277.

The whole quantity of gas made in the first year was six and a half millions of cubic feet. During the term of eighteen years, the increase in capacity and profitable results has been steadily progressive, and the prosperity of the works uninterrupted. The annual production of gas has increased forty fold, or four thousand per cent, the number of customers is more than fifty fold, and the number of lights in use more than seventy fold, or seven thousand per cent. of increase. In the reports annually laid before Councils by the Board of Trustees, are tabular statements prepared by the undersigned, with a design to exhibit full and accurate statistical details of the condition and growth of the works in each year of their history. Copies of these reports for the last two years, are

herewith transmitted, from which I have collated the following brief resumé of the condition of the works on the first of the current year. The number of customers receiving gas from the old city works on the first of January, 1855, was fifteen thousand and three; the number of lights supplied, two hundred and twenty-two thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine; the length of street mains, exclusive of those belonging to the Southwark Gas Company, one hundred and forty-two and three-quarter miles; length of service pipes, thirty-eight and a quarter miles. The quantity of gas consumed and accounted for in the year 1854, was two hundred and seventy-nine and one-third millions of feet; the quantity made at the works was two hundred and eighty-one and a quarter millions. The whole amount produced, since the commencement of the works, being nineteen hundred and forty-six and a half millions of cubic feet. The foregoing summary relates only to the first ten wards, and the twenty-fourth ward; these being the sections of the city receiving gas from the original city works.

In the thirteenth and fourteenth, and partially in the twentieth ward, gas is supplied from the works constructed by the late District of Spring Garden, under the superintendence of Mr. A. Myers, whose fourth annual report gives the following details of the condition of the works on the first of the current year.

Number of meters in use four thousand seven hundred and sixty-nine, length of street mains over thirty-eight miles; length of service pipes over sixteen miles; gas made in 1854, sixty-six and a quarter millions of feet; the number of lights in use and quantity of gas sold and accounted for are not stated.

By a recent ordinance of Councils, these works have been consigned to the direction of the "Trustees of the Philadelphia Gas Works," under whose authority the necessary

arrangements are in progress for including them in the general system of supervision and accountability that has prevailed in the city works, whereby is secured a regular and minute record of all transactions, both manufacturing and monetary. In the twenty-third ward, gas is obtained from the works of the Northern Liberties Gas Company; the main pipes, and service pipes and meters, and a small station meter and gas-holder, being the property of the city, and consigned to the care of the Trustees of the Gas Works. The length of main pipes in this ward is about six and a half miles; of service pipes, half a mile; the number of customers one hundred and eighty-six; using seven hundred and ninety-six lights.

In the remaining eight wards, gas is obtained from the works of gas companies situated in the Northern Liberties, Germantown, and Manayunk, the pipes of conduit being the property of these or other private corporations, as are also those in the wards comprising the late District of Southwark. There had been expended on the first of January, 1855, for the construction of the works and extension of pipes made under authority of the Trustees of the city works, the sum of one million seven hundred and twenty-six thousand one hundred and forty-three dollars and ninety-three cents; of which three hundred and seventeen thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine dollars and sixty-seven cents was derived from profits on sales of gas; and one million three hundred and seventy thousand dollars from loans contracted under various ordinances of Councils.

By the operations of the sinking fund, created for the redemption of these loans, there has been accumulated from profits of the works the sum of five hundred and eighty-four thousand seven hundred dollars; making the aggregate of profits after payment of expenses, repairs and interest, amount to eight hundred and sixty-six thousand six hundred

and seventy-nine dollars and sixty-seven cents; and leaving eight hundred and twenty-one thousand three hundred dollars, as the balance of indebtedness upon the outlays for permanent objects, to the first of January last. This, of course, does not include amounts due on unliquidated accounts and contracts for new constructions not yet completed.

As a consideration for the Gas Works and pipes recently assigned by Councils to the Trustees, the latter have assumed as required by ordinance, the payment of four hundred and fifty thousand dollars of the city debt, principal and interest; and for the purpose of meeting this obligation, and of equalizing the price of gas in accordance with the provisions of the same ordinance, the Trustees have made the necessary regulations by which the price of gas on after the first of July next, will be at the uniform rate of two dollars and twenty-five cents per thousand cubic feet in all the wards supplied from works under their control.

The advantages, both as respects convenience and safety arising from the use of gas light, are now so well understood and appreciated, as to have produced a general desire for the extension of its benefits to all parts of the city where population is sufficiently dense to warrant its introduction. Numerous petitions promising an addition of many thousand lights, the supplying of which would contribute both to the welfare of the petitioners and to the prosperity of the Gas Works, have been presented by citizens in the newly built parts of the city, who are in every way entitled to the accommodation they request, but cannot receive it in consequence of the want of authority on the part of the Trustees for raising the requisite funds.

In January, 1854, the anticipated necessity of making provision to meet the demands for extension of the street pipes was brought to the notice of the Trustees in the annual report of the engineer; and the subject was soon after urged

upon the attention of Councils in a report of the Trustees, in which was set forth their opinion in favor of continuing a policy, from which had resulted so much advantage, both to the public and to citizens individually, without any hazard of taxing the city treasury.

A bill, framed for the purpose of conferring the requisite authority to enable the Trustees to meet the wishes of their fellow citizens by making the extensions they request, was introduced into the late body of Common Council, and, having been by their action, carried through the preliminary forms required by law, is now in a position to be taken up and perfected with but little farther delay; and as a postponement of it for a few weeks will virtually deprive many citizens of its benefits for a whole year, it becomes highly desirable that it should be finally acted on as early as may be practicable.

Another subject, which the interests of the Gas Works require to be urged upon the early attention of Councils, is the necessity of providing houses for the accommodation of the workmen employed at the new Gas Works in the first ward; from the want of which serious inconvenience now arises to the men, who are compelled to travel several miles daily to and from their work; and also the hazard of a deficient supply of gas is encountered in case the workmen should, by any cause, be prevented from reaching their distant place of employment.

Very respectfully submitted by

JOHN C. CRESSON,

Engineer.

PHILADELPHIA, *May* 15*th*, 1855.

Report from the Chief Commissioner of Highways.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS,
May 12th, 1855.

TO HON. ROBT. T. CONRAD, *Mayor.*

DEAR SIR: — Your communication, asking information relative to this department, is received; and I shall endeavor to give all the information at my command, that the limited time will admit of.

Previous to the consolidation of the city, and until the organization of this department in October last, the executive duties now performed by it, were in the hands of committees of the various districts, superintendents, supervisors, clerks of districts, and other officers, of whose doings and expenditure this department has no means of ascertaining.

The published report of the City Controller, shows the aggregate payments made up to the first of January; and annexed you have a statement, marked "A," showing the contracts (belonging to this department,) made by the late districts, that remained unsettled on the first of January, with the amounts paid on them since that date, and the estimated cost of completing the same, amounting to $217,575 56. In addition to which, on the 13th March last, Councils appropriated the sum of $80,000 for the payment of claims prior to January first, about $50,000 of which is chargeable to the old districts; making an amount of $267,575 56 of liabilities incurred previous to consolidation, to be settled by the new city during this year.

The organization of the department, as provided for by the ordinance approved August 29th, 1854, consists of a chief commissioner, six commissioners, and forty-two super-

visors. For the better supervision, the city has been divided into six districts, as follows:

1st District	comprises	1st, 2d, 3d and 4th wards, - -	6	supervisors.
2d "	"	5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 24th wards,	11	"
3d "	"	13th, 14th, 15th and 20th wards, -	6	"
4th "	"	11th, 12th, 16th and 17th wards, -	5	"
5th "	"	18th, 19th and 23d wards, - -	8	"
6th "	"	21st and 22d wards, - - - - -	6	"

Each district is in charge of a commissioner, who has an office within the same; the supervisors have each their ward, or division of a ward, and have the immediate charge of the laborers employed on the streets or roads, in paving, grading and cleansing, and are subject to the control of the commissioner, and purchase no materials without his orders.

Since the passage of the supplement to the Consolidation Act, the commissioners and chief meet weekly, as a board, in accordance with the requirements of that document.

The department has been in existence little more than six months, and that including the winter months. Its operations have been confined to the cleansing of the streets, repairing of roads and bridges, grading new streets, preparatory to the contemplated improvements of the present year, repairing sewers and inlets, and repairing the paved streets, after the severe frosts of the past winter.

The ordinance to regulate the manner of paving the streets having passed Councils a few days since, the Board submitted a list of streets to be new paved, to the late Committee on Public Highways, who reported the same to Councils, at their last meeting. As soon as the same will receive the sanction of Councils, the department is prepared to commence, without delay, the paving of new streets, as asked for by the owners of property; the appropriation for that purpose, is $200,000—a sum more than fully equal to

meet all demands for the year; and the return to the treasury may be safely estimated at three-fourths of the amount expended.

The other sources of revenue received at this office, consists of permits granted for buildings, for openings to the sewers, licenses for omnibuses, hackney-coaches, wagons, carts, barrows, &c. Most of the ordinances regulating them have been passed within the last month; I am unable, at this time, to make any estimate of the amount to be derived from them.

The statement annexed, marked "B," shows the appropriations made to this department since the first day of January, with the purposes for which the same were made, and the actual amount for new works during the year, to be $658,310; which, however, might be further reduced, as the item No. 7, of $400,000, is for completing contracts made prior to consolidation.

The amounts of the second appropriation are believed to be ample to meet the demands for the objects for which they were made.

Two important works to be paid from the item of "Grading Streets," are—first, the opening of Delaware avenue, from Callowhill street to Cohocksink creek, which is now rapidly progressing—the other, the opening of Girard avenue, from Landing street to the Schuylkill, to connect with the bridge now nearly completed. This work has been delayed by the necessity of calling a jury to assess the damages to the property through which the same must pass. As soon as that can be settled, the work will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

Among the subjects to be recommended to the consideration of Councils—

The providing for the payment of damages for opening streets should receive early attention; many are due, for

which no provision has yet been made. An ordinance, creating a loan of $100,000, to meet such demands, was reported by the late Committee on Highways, and has been duly published, as required. Should it be enacted into a law, it would materially aid in forwarding desirable improvements.

A bridge over the river Schuylkill, at Chestnut street, was provided for by Act of Assembly, and the sum of $125,000 borrowed for the purpose of erecting it; no improvement is more desirable. Much attention was given to the subject by the Committee on Highways; and a report, recommending the adoption of a plan now in this department, is before Councils for their action. A work of so much importance to the public, should receive early attention.

The Department of Surveys is preparing plans and specifications for the culverting of Cohocksink creek, from Front street to Sixth street: also for culverts in Moore street, from the Delaware to Ninth street, and in Vine street, from Nineteenth street to the Schuylkill. As soon as received, proposals will be issued for their construction, and the result will be reported to Councils for their action.

An ordinance was reported to Councils, providing for the opening of Broad street, of its full width, (113 feet,) to the Germantown road — an improvement much desired, which I trust will receive your recommendation.

The opening of one or more of the wide avenues running from the Delaware to the Schuylkill, in the northern part of the city, is a subject that should be strongly urged upon Councils, as the expense at this time would be trifling in comparison to what it will cost at a future day.

That portion of the City Railroad lying east of Delaware Eighth street, is in bad condition; and no appropriation was made by the late Councils, for keeping it in repair. In its

present condition, it is a nuisance, and should be either relaid, on an improved plan, or should be taken up forthwith.

Machines, constructed for the purpose of cleansing streets, have recently been introduced here; and a portion of the City of New York is now being cleansed with them. A proposition from the proprietors is now being prepared, for the cleansing a portion of our city, which will be submitted to Councils in a few days. The cleansing of the streets, with the exception of the six wards comprising the old city, is now done by day's work; it could be equally well done, at much less cost, if divided into districts, and let by contract.

The subject of laying passenger railroads through the city, was referred to the heads of the Survey and Highway Departments; the duties connected with the organization of the Survey Department has deferred action for the present. It will be taken up and reported upon at an early day.

I would suggest the propriety of recommending to Councils the passing of an ordinance requiring railroad companies to have gates and watchmen at points where their locomotives cross on a level with highways much used.

The foregoing are such subjects as occur to me at this time, and are thrown together for your consideration. The department having been in existence so short a time, and having no record of the aggregate expenditures on the highways by the county and districts, prior to its organization, no comparison can be made of the cost of the present, as compared with the past system.

Very respectfully,

THOMAS BIRCH,

Chief Commissioner.

A.

STATEMENT

Of Contracts made by Corporations prior to the Act of Consolidation, the settlement of which must be made during this year.

Amounts paid since January 1st, 1855—

District of Richmond, for seven bridges over Gunner's Run,		$31,673 17
do do culverts at do		4,778 00
do do street paving,		5,858 97
District of Kensington, for culverts,		23,207 25
Southwark, for paving,		2,577 93
West Philadelphia, for paving,		6,473 20
Germantown, for grading,		1,200 00
Girard Avenue, for grading, Montgomery and Berks Avenues, grading,		7,900 00
Girard Avenue bridge,		8,835 20
Thompson street culvert,		20,000 00
Estimated amount required to complete them,		$112,483 72
*Richmond bridges,	$25,000 00	
* do culverts,	3,000 00	
*Kensington culverts,	5,000 00	
Germantown, grading,	1,000 00	
*Kensington, grading,	3,091 84	
Girard Avenue, grading,	30,000 00	
Montgomery and Berks, grading,	15,000 00	
Girard Avenue bridge,	15,000 00	
Mill Creek bridge,	5,000 00	
*Thompson street culvert,	3,000 00	—105,091 84
		$217,575 56

* Payable in bonds.

B.

APPROPRIATIONS

Made to the Department of Highways, since Jan. 1st, 1855.

Ordinance approved		January	13th,		-	$24,160 00
do	do	do	13th,	G,	-	16,512 33
do	do	do	18th,	G,	-	58,823 04
do	do	do	22d,	G,	-	3,410 23
do	do	do	29th,	C,	-	17,131 66
do	do	February	6th,	G,	-	36,565 13
do	do	do	12th,	G,	-	12,591 52
do	do	do	12th,	B,	-	54,826 90
do	do	do	12th,	D,	-	10,914 00
do	do	March	8th,	G,	-	3,167 01
do	da	do	13th,		-	719,150 00
do	do	do	13th,	B,	-	5,000 00
do	do	do	24th,	D,	-	2,656 00
do	do	do	27th,	B,	-	3,953 08
do	do	April	18th,	G,	-	25,521 07
do	do	do	19th,	B,	-	6,000 00
do	do	do	28th,	B,	-	21,395 34
do	do	May	10th,	B,	-	3,091 84
						$1,024,869 15

This amount includes—

1st. Ordinance marked (G), being appropriations to pay debts connected with the several gas works, lighting the city, &c., having no connection with this department, - - - - $156,590 33

Amounts carried forward,	$156,590 83	$1,014,869 15

Amounts brought forward,	$156,590 33	$1,024,869 15
2d. Ordinance marked (B), being appropriations in bonds to pay contracts of the Districts, prior to Consolidation,	94,267 16	
3d. Ordinance marked (C), being appropriations in cash to pay contracts of the Districts,	17,131 66	
4th. Ordinances marked(D), being damages for opening streets, assessed by juries prior to 1st January, - - -	13,570 00	
5th. Appropriations in ordinances of January 13th and March 13th, to pay claims prior to January 1st, - -	85,000 00	
		366,559 15
Leaving actual appropriations for use in 1855, of		$658,310 00
Which was appropriated as follows:		
1. New paving streets, -	$200,000 00	
2. Repaving streets -	25,000 00	
3. Repairing streets, -	100,000 00	
4. Grading streets and roads,	100,000 00	
5. Repairing roads, -	30,000 00	
6. Paving footways, -	5,000 00	
7. Grading Girard, Montgomery and Berks Avenues, completing Girard Av. bridge and bridge at Mill Creek; contracts prior to Consolidation, -	41,000 00	
8. Repairs to culverts and new inlets, - - - -	10,000 00	
Amounts carried forward,	$511,000 00	$658,310 00

Amounts brought forward,	$511,000 00	$658,310 00
9. Bridge at Franklin Av.,	4,000 00	
10. Building and repairing bridges, - - - - -	10,000 00	
11. Cleansing streets, -	81,660 00	
12. Repairs and labor on City Railroad, - - -	6,000 00	
13. Repairs to well-pumps,	4,000 00	
14. Salaries, - - -	38,600 00	
15. Temporary clerks, -	750 00	
16. Surveyor's expenses, -	2,000 00	
	$658,310 00	$658,310 00

Of which amount, warrants have been drawn

for New paving, (stone,)	$2,432 90
Repaving, - - -	866 06
Repairing streets, -	21,741 64
Grading streets, - -	21,756 80
Repairing roads, -	6,871 68
Paving footways, -	394 34
Repairing culverts, &c.,	786 09
Repairing bridges, -	678 51
Cleansing streets, &c.,	30,118 68
Repairing City Railroad,	951 14
do wells and pumps,	697 91
Salaries, - - -	12,759 71
Temporary clerk, -	250 00
Surveyor's expenses, -	1,594 57
Insurance, &c., - -	984 79
Grading Girard, Montgomery and Berks Av. & Girard Av. bridge,	8,233 49
	$111,118 21

Outstanding bills, about $20,000 00

Report of the Superintendent of City Railroad.

HON. ROBERT T. CONRAD,

Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular of the first instant, and in compliance therewith, submit the following, as comprising the information called for, from that division of the Department of Public Highways over which I preside.

My official duties comprise,—the care and repair of the Railroad, the collection of its revenue, and the general regulation and supervision of the business and travel of the road.

No particular or marked change occurred in this department, by the resolution effected by the Act of Consolidation. The repairs to the Railroad being a uniform matter, and strict economy an invariable principle, a departure from established usage was not available. I therefore continued in what experience had proved to be a well adopted course, the only exception being, that in all matters of consultation or for supplies, I sought and found as my official superior, the Chief Commissioner of Public Highways, in place of the Committee on Public Highways of the old City Councils.

OF THE CARE AND REPAIR OF THE RAILROAD.

During the summer and fall of the year 1854, considerable and well executed repairs were done to the road, so that notwithstanding the great severity of the past winter, the opening spring presented it in much better condition than it had been at the same season for several previous years. The force employed on the Railroad, varies from circumstances. In the busy periods of the last summer, I had six men and one stone-cutter, hiring perhaps an occasional laborer when necessity called for it. I have now employed four men and

one stone-cutter, one at $1 50 per day, three at $1 25 each, per day, the stone-cutter at $2 per day, when working by the day, and fifteen cents per foot when dressing railroad stone. In the winter season the necessities of trade require that snow and icy obstructions should be removed with the greatest dispatch, and then such force is engaged as will rapidly accomplish that object.

The condition of the Railroad east of Eighth street is bad indeed; west of Eighth street and to Broad street, and on Broad street, north and south from Market street, it is in fair order.

The wooden structure west of Broad street, and to the bridge, laid down in 1851, gives manifest evidence of premature decay, and ample notice that it will soon be a source of considerable expense. That part of it lying on the grade, at the eastern end of the bridge, when taken out, is decayed even to rottenness, and a large part of it has already been renewed. As the wood continues to give way, I shall be compelled to renew it.

OF THE REVENUE.

The system now in use for the collection of the tolls, is the same as had been adopted by City Councils, under the Ordinance passed 24th of November, 1842, p. 270 Dig., and its Supplement, passed 15th of January, 1851, p. 370 Dig., the latter enacted immediately after the reconstruction of the bridge over the river Schuylkill, at Market street. I am not aware that this system is susceptible of much improvement. Under the Second Section of the Ordinance, passed 24th of September, 1840, p. 251 Dig., and its Supplement, 16th of January, 1851, as before, parties have the right to contract for the use of the Railway. Under this authority, there now exists three contracts, as follows:

1st. The Reading Railroad Company, $300 per annum.

2d. The West Chester Railroad Company, located on the south side of Market street, west of Eighteenth street, a freight and passenger line, $637 50 per annum.

3d. Messrs. Sandford & Co., (Adams' Express,) located at Broad street and Locust, $180 per annum.

All the other business is in accordance with the laws in relation thereto. The practice is thus:

From the regular transportation and passenger lines, as for example, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Harris & Leech, for merchandise, and Messrs. Bingham & Dock, for passengers, statements of the weight and character of the goods they carry, and of the number of passengers they convey, are made once in every month, or once in every two weeks, as may be desired. From these statements the bills are made out, collected and paid to the City Treasurer.

The remainder of the business is from those cars whose owners have no location in Philadelphia, and are generally known as transient cars. These, as they pass westward over the Railroad, stop and pay their tolls at the desk.

On the morning of every Monday in each week, a distinct statement of my account, showing what I have received, and from whom, and that the whole has been paid into the hands of the City Treasurer, is delivered to the City Controller.

By the Act of Assembly, passed 23d of March, 1831, p. 171 Dig., and its Supplement of 10th of April, 1849, p. 338 Dig., the tolls to be charged for the use of the City Road, must be the same as is charged on the Philadelphia and Columbia Railway, according to the distance.

Those rates are annually determined by the Canal Commissioners, and are from time to time adapted to the City Road.

The amount received and paid into the City Treasury,

from June 10th, 1854, to May 1st, 1855, was $10,993 01, and was derived from the following sources:

Sandford & Co., ...	$ 150 00
Reading Railroad Co., . . .	250 00
West Chester Railroad Co., . .	584 37
On merchandise, ...	5,982 93
On passengers, ...	3,633 65
From sale of old materials, . .	392 06
	$10,993 01

The whole amount of the revenue for the year 1854, was $13,138 29, but as the Railroad gains or loses, as business is prosperous or depressed, and as the current season has been prolific in adversity to all mercantile transactions, it can hardly be expected that the revenue for 1855 will equal that of 1854. Yet on a comparison of the amount received and paid for the quarter ending 30th of March, 1855, with its parallel of 1854, I find an increase in favor of the former, of $353 51. Should the refreshing spirit of prosperity again fall on the labors of our business community, I shall indulge the reasonable expectation that the City Railroad will, in 1855, contribute to the City Treasury but little short of the amount of the year 1854.

OF THE EXPENDITURE.

I cannot answer this question, I am not a disbursing officer. All payments are made by the Chief Commissioner of Highways, under whose authority, also, all purchases are made. I certify the correctness of such bills as are for supplies and work, and deliver them to the Commissioner, when my connection with them ceases.

As to prospective expenses, the appropriation already made will, I think, be more than ample.

Except myself, there are no salaried officers attached to this office. I have a boy, to whom $2 50 per week is paid, for assisting me in my office duties, and to remain during my necessary absence. The office door is opened at seven o'clock in the morning, and not again closed until eight or nine o'clock at night, and later when required.

My connection with the railroad side of the Market street bridge, brings me often to that structure, and I have long been of opinion, that the preparations for the suppression of fire, would admit of much improvement. It is difficult to form too high an estimate of the value of that bridge to the people of Philadelphia, either as an avenue for ordinary travel, or as an appendage to the great trade of the city; its destruction would be an event deplorable indeed. I fear, should it take fire, its loss would be complete, before the appliances for its redemption could be brought into successful operation.

I submit whether this matter is not worth an inquiry.

Having thus, as I conceive, presented to your views the whole matter of the office I fill,

I am, very respectfully yours,

JOHN NEFF,
Superintendent City Railroad.

Philadelphia, May 11*th*, 1855.

Report from the Department of Wharves and Landings.

DEPARTMENT OF WHARVES AND LANDINGS,
Philadelphia, May 9th, 1855.

Hon. ROBERT T. CONRAD,
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

DEAR SIR:—In compliance with your request, I respectfully submit the following answers:

1*st*. At the time I took charge, as Superintendent of the Department, I found many of the docks required cleansing, and wharves in want of immediate repairs.

The expenditures of this department, since my connection with the same, have been,

For repairing Counting House, Christian street wharf, and repairs on said wharf, - -	$100	00
" repairing Noble and Maiden street wharves,	127	75
" " Bridesburg wharf, - - -	150	00
" six month's ground rent on lot, west end of Wood street, known as Wood street landing, Schuylkill - - - - - -	117	25
" advertising proposals for rent, - - -	16	55
" three months' salary, Superintendent, -	200	00
	$711	55

Leaving $4,238 45 cents, of appropriation as per estimate, for the balance of the current fiscal year, which in my opinion will all be required for the necessary repairs and cleansing of docks now in operation.

The Superintendent of Wharves is the only officer in this department, the repairs of wharves and cleansing docks being executed by contract, as the same may be required "under his supervision."

The following rents were due at the time of organization, "January 2d, 1855," viz:

Washington	street	landing,	-	-	$156 25
Christian	do	do	-	-	831 25
Catharine	do	do	-	-	42 50
Davis's		do	-	-	25 00
Almond	do	do	-	-	350 00
Pine	do	do	-	-	150 00
Spruce	do	do	-	-	125 00
Dock	do	do	-	-	1,000 00
Walnut	do	do	-	-	375 00
Chestnut	do	do	-	-	450 00
High	do	do	-	-	650 00
do	do	do	"North,"	-	200 00
Mulberry,	"Arch,"	street	landing,	-	700 00
do		do	do	"South,"	300 00
Sassafras,	"Race,"	do	do	-	500 00
Vine		do	do	-	625 00
Callowhill		do	do	-	1,500 00
do		do	do	"North,"	487 50
Noble		do	do	-	2,300 00
Green		do	do	-	2,075 00
Coates		do	do	-	3,375 00
William		do	do	two years,	100 00
Wood		do	do	Schuylkill,	75 00
Mulberry		do	do	do	12 50
Chestnut		do	do	do	1,145 00
George		do	do	do	31 25
Walnut		do	do	do	43 75
Pine		do	do	do	25 00
Cedar,	"South,"	do	do	do	25 00
					$17,674 00

All of which has been collected and paid over to the City Treasurer, except Vine street landing, Delaware, which is in the hands of the City Solicitor, and Chestnut street landing "Schuylkill," occupied by the Trustees of the Philadelphia Gas Works.

2*d*. I am decidedly of the opinion, that the interest of the city will be subserved, by the employment of an agent, to superintend the duties as committed to this department, either in its present organization, or as an officer in the department of Highways, if that be deemed preferable.

3*d*. The expenses of the department, annual salary, &c., for the current fiscal year, will be,

Superintendent's salary, -	-	$800 00
Incidental expenses, -	-	250 00
Making		1050 00

4*th*. The results attained up to this date in improvements, are the following:

Cleansing Walnut street dock.
do Davis's do
Repairing Chestnut street wharf.
do Noble and Maiden street wharves.
do Bridesburg wharf; and Callowhill street dock by removing the old ferry slip, which lengthens the dock about thirty feet.

5*th*. The wharves in general, "on the Delaware," are in good order. The revenue of the city would be increased, and commerce benefited considerably, if several of the wharves were extended to the Port Warden's line, viz:

Washington street wharf; Christian street wharf; Dock street wharf; Chestnut street wharf; and Bridesburg wharf.

Wherever the public wharves and landings in the old districts, have been rented by public auction, they have brought an increased revenue, viz:

In the Northern Liberties, four wharves rented in 1853, for - - - -	$11,480 00
Rented by auction in 1854, - - -	16,900 00
Making an increase of - -	$5,420 00

In Southwark, three wharves rented, in 1853, for - - - - -	$2,080 00
In Southwark, three wharves rented, in 1854, by auction, - - - -	3,925 00
Increase, - - - -	$1,845 00

The tenants generally are in favor of renting by public auction.

There are fifteen wharves, landings, and docks on the Schuylkill, one of which,

Chestnut street, rents for - -	$4,580 00
Eight rent for - - -	940 00

and six are not rented, being in a dilapidated condition, and the docks filled, so as to be of little use. The revenue arising from the wharves, landings and docks being so small, it would not warrant the city to expend the amount to make them tenantable at the present period. There is but little business done of that character, as would command tenants, should they be improved.

There are several docks on the delaware require cleansing, which have been deferred to a more favorable period, viz: Coates street, Green street, Noble street, Callowhill street, and Race street docks.

The rents for the fiscal year, - $52,612 00

I would here remark that the culvert in Christian street, "late Southwark," passes through Christian street wharf, and empties into the dock, causing the same to fill up rapidly, whereby a heavy expense will occur every two or three years. By extending the wharf out to the Port Wardens' line, the difficulty would be avoided, as the current would carry the refuse away.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES HORNER,

Superintendent of Wharves and Landings.

Report from the Commissioner of Markets.

OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT OF MARKET HOUSES,
Philadelphia, May 14, 1855.

TO HON. R. T. CONRAD.

DEAR SIR:—In compliance with the request contained in your circular of the first instant, I beg leave to submit to you the following statement of the condition of this Department.

The Market Houses of the Consolidated City were placed under my charge in the early part of last December, with the exception of the two located on Broad and Race streets; these two last named were opened to the public on the 1st day of April, 1855.

The amount received by the various corporations com-

posing the present Consolidated City, for Market rents in 1854, was $67,316 00, and the expenses for salaries of Clerks, Deputy Clerks and Watchmen for same time, was $8,003 00.

The present organization of this Department, consists of one Commissioner and twelve Clerks of Markets, at an annual expense of $6,300 00. I estimate that the receipts for the present year will amount to at least $68,525 50, of which, up to this time, there has been collected $57,325 50, leaving $11,200 00 of half-yearly rents to collect in June and July. The amount of revenue, in my opinion, might be greatly increased, even for the present year, if the various ordinances of the old corporations, relating to the Markets were carefully revised, so that all would be brought under the same regulations.

The amount appropriated to this Department, for repairs, printing, and incidental expenses for the present year, is $3,000 00; the amount expended for the same purposes last year I have been unable to ascertain, but certainly could not be less. Thus you are enabled to see that while the receipts have increased, the expenditures have been lessened.

Respectfully yours, &c.,

W. D. NEWELL,

Commissioner of Markets.

Report from the President of the Girard College.

Girard College, May 8, 1855.

HON. ROBERT T. CONRAD,

Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

SIR:—In reply to your communication of May 1st, which has been received to-day, the undersigned has the honor to submit the following statement:

Girard College was opened for the reception of orphans on the 1st day of January, 1848. The whole number of pupils who have been admitted since that time, is five hundred and four; of whom fourteen have died, thirty-three have been honorably discharged by request of their friends, forty-eight have been removed for misconduct, and one hundred have been indentured as apprentices. The number now remaining in the College is three hundred and nine.

The occupations of the masters to whom orphans have been bound, and the number of apprentices learning each occupation, are given in the following list:

Architect,	1	Manufacturers,	4
Barber,	1	Mariners,	3
Brass Founder,	1	Merchants,	4
Cabinetmaker,	1	Painters and Glaziers,	3
Carpenters,	3	Papermaker,	1
Carver,	1	Phil. Instrument Maker,	1
Chairmaker,	1	Plasterer,	1
Chemist,	1	Printers,	14
Coachmakers,	3	Saddlers,	2
Confectioner,	1	Sculptor,	1
Conveyancers,	2	Silver Chasers,	2
Coopers,	2	Silver Platers,	2
Druggists,	12	Silversmith,	1
Engravers,	2	Stereotypers,	2
Farmers,	7	Shoemakers,	2
Fresco Painter,	1	Tanners,	3
Hatter,	1	Tinsmiths,	2
Horticulturists,	2	Turners,	2
Ironmaster,	1	Watchmaker,	1
Lithographers,	2	Wheelwright,	1
Machinists,	2		
		Total,	100

Of these, sixty-eight reside in Philadelphia, and thirty-two in other parts of Pennsylvania.

The experience of the last two years in the indenturing of apprentiees from the College, has been quite sueeessful. Not only has the demand for apprentiees been greater than the College has been able to supply, but the orphans who have been indentured, have in most eases proved intelligent, industrious and honest. Many of them are spoken of by their masters in terms of high praise; and instanees have not been wanting where the same master has applied for a seeond, and even for a third boy. Exeeptions to their general good conduet have indeed occurred, but the number of these is quite small. On the whole, the experiment of binding has strengthened our confidenee in the usefulness of the Institution, and in its ability and tendeney to elevate labor by sending forth suecessive contributions of well edueated and intelligent apprentiees into the various departments of industry.

The following table exhibits the expenditures of the College from 1849 to 1854, inelusive; the number of orphans receiving maintenance and instruetion each year; and the annual cost of eaeh orphan:

YEAR.	EXPENDITURES.	NO. OF PUPILS.	Average cost of an Orphan for the year.
1849	$44,100 00	205	$215 61
1850	66,378 81	305	217 96
1851	61,793 14	298	207 36
1852	60,512 37	301	201 04
1853	63,309 76	305	207 90
1854	71,402 37	304	234 87

These expenditures include subsistenee, elothing, household furniture, fuel, light, wages, salaries, books and stationery, printing, medieines and medical attendanee, dentistry, school furniture, library, ehemieal and philosophical apparatus,

repairs of buildings, improvement and care of grounds, outfit of apprentices, and all expenses incident to the admission and binding out of orphans. The excess of expenditures for 1854, over those of the preceding years, was caused partly by extending the course of study to suit the advancing age and progressive mental culture of the orphans, partly by the cost of outfit for apprentices, but chiefly by the high price of all articles of subsistence.

For the purpose of instruction, the orphans are divided into three schools, called the Principal, the First Primary and the Second Primary Schools, each containing from ninety to one hundred and twenty pupils, who are divided into six classes. In the Primary Schools every teacher gives instruction to two classes in reading, spelling, writing, geography, English grammar, arithmetic, history, and such other branches as the age and capacity of the pupils require. In the Principal School there is a more minute subdivision of the labor of instruction, and all the classes are taught by each teacher in his appropriate department. The Principal of the school gives instruction in natural philosophy, natural history, chemistry and astronomy; the teacher of drawing, in architectural and mechanical drawing, draughting, penmanship and book-keeping; the teacher of mathematics, in arithmetic, algebra, geometry, plane and spherical trigonometry, surveying, navigation and conic sections; the teacher of modern languages, in French and Spanish; and the assistant teacher, in reading, English grammar, composition, geography, history, and the Constitutions of Pennsylvania and the United States.

The President and other officers have charge of the government and discipline of the pupils, under the control of the Board of Directors. The Board consists of sixteen members, of whom four are elected every year, two by Select, and two by Common Council.

The moral instruction of the orphans has been confided to the President by the Board of Directors, with power to invite any member of the Board, or any layman previously approved by the Board, to assist him on Sunday in the discharge of that duty.

For the preservation of good order, and the care of the orphans out of school, the older boys are placed under the charge of prefects, in sections of sixty pupils, while the younger are supervised by governesses, in sections of thirty.

The discipline of the institution is parental, and as mild as is consistent with proper subordination. The orphans are subjected to no more restraint than their own comfort, safety, and moral improvement demand. When coercion is necessary to enforce obedience, it is used so far as to obtain that object. We endeavor to prevent the commission of offences by a carefully digested system of rewards and punishments. The rewards of good scholarship are, promotion to a higher class, section, or school, elevation of class rank, public commendation, and honorable mention to the Board of Directors. The rewards of good conduct are, promotion to a higher grade, public approval, excursions to the country, or to places of interest in the city, visits to their friends, and increase of indulgences. The usual penalties are, reproof, loss of grade, deprivation of indulgences, detention from play, and seclusion. After milder means of reformation have failed, corporal punishment may be inflicted, by order of the President, and in his presence, or by an officer to whom his authority has been delegated. Pupils can be placed on probation, and dismissed from the College, only by the Board of Directors.

All departments of the College have been so systematized that an additional number of orphans could be maintained and instructed, without a corresponding increase of the official or domestic force of the establishment, and, of course, with a less average yearly outlay for each orphan. But the number of

pupils cannot be increased much above the present limit without providing more room for their accommodation, either by the erection of a new group of buildings for the exclusive use of the Primary Schools, or by providing a separate structure for the laundry, kitchen, dining rooms and servants' chambers, thereby enabling us to use as section rooms, dormitories and school rooms for the primary scholars, many apartments in the present dwellings, which are now occupied by domestics, or used in the general work of the household. It is very desirable that one or the other of these improvements should be made as soon as the increasing revenues of the estate shall justify the expenditure.

Much inconvenience is experienced for want of a sufficient number of dwellings on the College grounds for the officers who have families. To obviate this, and enable the officers to be at all times within call, I would suggest that three or four small, neat dwelling houses be erected on the College premises, for their accommodation.

Permit me to observe, in conclusion, that as the laws and usages of the College have become every year better defined, and more fully comprehended, by both officers and pupils, harmony, good feeling and contentment have increased, the rigor of discipline has been softened, and the moral improvement of the orphans has been more marked and manifest. The Teachers, Matrons, Prefects and Governesses, discharge their duties with signal fidelity, industry and ability; and I desire to embrace every opportunity to express my sense of obligation to them for the promptness and energy with which they aid me in carrying out all measures sanctioned by the Board of Directors, for the benefit of the orphans and the improvement of the College.

I have also much pleasure in making this public record of my thanks to the officers of the Municipal Government, and to the Board of Directors of the College, for their generous

confidence, and for the efficient manner in which they have promoted the welfare of the Institution and the benevolent purposes of its Founder.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. ALLEN,

President.

Report from the Treasurer of the Girard Estate.

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER OF THE GIRARD ESTATE,

Philadelphia, May 8th, 1855.

To R. T. CONRAD, *Mayor.*

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your circular, received yesterday, I beg leave to submit the following. In consequence of no action having been taken in the Common Council on the ordinance submitted to them, (having passed the Select Council,) August 14, 1854, there has been no change in the officers of the Girard Estate, or the manner of conducting the business of the office, except the change made in the ordinances making appropriations to the College and the Estate. These direct the form of payment, which is to be made through the City Controller and the City Treasurer. Formerly the Treasurer made deposits in, and drew his checks upon the Bank of North America; now he draws on the City Treasurer, his deposits being made there by the Agent. The President and Secretary of the College draw warrants on the City Treasurer, through the Controller, the Treasurer of the Girard Estate keeping the accounts. This is the only change in the management of this Estate, the officers working under the old ordinances of Councils which have not been repealed, and all bills for the Estate and College having been subject to the supervision of the Joint Committee of Councils on the Girard Estate.

The condition of the Estate is good, and for the particulars and items composing the same I most respectfully refer to the statements presented to Councils June 29th, 1854, (Appendix of Select Council No. IV., page 7,) and to my Annual Report to Councils, January 1st, 1855, (which is enclosed herewith,) since when no change has taken place.

The expenses of the Estate and College have been carefully and critically supervised by the Committee. The Secretary to the Board of Commissioners of the Girard Estate, for which he received $500 per annum, has been dispensed with, and the duties added to those of the Treasurer, without an increase of salary.

The Estate holds several large lots in Twelfth and Thirteenth Wards, (Sixth street, Coates and Brown streets,) which are unimproved for the want of sufficient income, and from the restrictions in the will of Mr. Girard limiting the leases to five years, preventing the letting on ground rent. These are now occupied as lumber yards, carpenter shops, &c. Whether it would be advisable to apply to the Legislature for power to lease for a longer time, is a question for future consideration.

The time is fast approaching when the coal lands in Schuylkill County will yield a large income from the mines, as there is now applications to know upon what terms leases will be granted to work the same. Here the same difficulty occurs as to time, although it is thought that arrangements could be made with parties conditionally as to improvements made on the premises, at the termination of the lease.

When these coal mines are in operation the income will be sufficient to improve the lots in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Wards.

Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES S. SMITH,

Treasurer Girard Estate.

OFFICERS OF THE GIRARD ESTATE.

Elected by Councils.—Charles S. Smith, Treasurer, Salary $2,000, Security $50,000.

James Hutchinson, Agent, Salary $1,750, Security $15,000.

Elected by Commissioners of the Girard Estate.—George Bastian, Agent for Farms, Salary $500, Security none.

Joseph D. Meredith, Agent for Lands in Schuylkill County, Salary $600, Security none.

C. Tower, Law Agent for Lands in Schuylkill County, Salary $100, Security none.

John P. Roberts, Messenger, Salary $550, Security none.

Report from the City Solicitor.

CITY SOLICITOR'S OFFICE.

Philadelphia May 1*st*, 1855.

HON. ROBERT T. CONRAD, *Mayor.*

DEAR SIR:—I have deemed it proper in view of the general statement of the condition of the city in relation to its government, finances and improvements, which it is your duty to communicate to Councils, that you should thus formally be put in possession of a report from this branch of the public service.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The receipts at this office to the 30th April, 1855, inclusive, have been - - - - - - - $50,977 00

As follows:

From claims for curbing, paving, &c., $44,780 37

From interest and costs, including fees and commissions, - - 6,196 63

EXPENDITURES.

The expenditures at this office to the same date, have been - - - - - - - $14,821 46

This includes six thousand eight hundred and fifty-five dollars sixty-two cents for filing and advertising liens, in accordance with the provisions of the act of Assembly; and also the sum of nine hundred dollars for furnishing offices, stationery, blanks, printing, and general advertising.

The ordinance establishing the Law Department of the City of Philadelphia did not become a law until the 22d of August, 1854, and its organization was not completed until September of the same year. The duties of the department are thus defined by ordinance:

"It shall be the duty of the City Solicitor to prepare all bonds, obligations, contracts, leases, conveyances and assurances, which may be required of him by any ordinance of the Corporation of the City of Philadelphia: to commence and prosecute all and every suit and suits, action and actions brought and to be brought by the Corporation for or on account of any of the estates, rights, trusts, privileges, claims or demands of the same, as well as to defend all actions or suits brought or to be brought against the said Corporation, or any officer thereof, wherein or whereby any of the estates, rights, privileges, trusts, ordinances or acts of this Corporation or any branch thereof may be brought in question before any court in this Commonwealth; and he shall do all and every professional act incident to the office which may be required of him by the Mayor of the said city, or by any committee of the Select or Common Council, or by any ordinance or resolution of the said Councils or either of them, and shall, when required, furnish the said Councils or committees thereof, and the Mayor, with his written opinion on any subject which may be submitted by them. He shall perform all the duties now

enjoined by law or ordinance upon the Solicitors of the various districts, municipalities, corporations and bodies, including the Board of Health, Guardians of the Poor, Prison Inspectors, and Controllers of the Public Schools, which are superseded by the act entitled 'A further supplement to an Act entitled An Act to incorporate the City of Philadelphia,' or whose estates have been vested in the City of Philadelphia."

In addition to the various duties thus referred to, the attention of the department has been directed to the collection of the amounts due the city on municipal claims.

The aggregate receipts from this source have been $50,977; of this there has been received for interest and costs, including fees and commissions, $6,196 63.

Of the receipts at this office, returns are made to the Controller in each week.

Since the organization of the department, in addition to the general business designated in the ordinance, sixteen hundred and sixty-nine suits have been brought or defended, exclusive of the desertion cases arising under the Poor Laws.

I am, respectfully yours,

IS: HAZLEHURST.

Report from the Department of Surveys.

DEPARTMENT OF SURVEYS,
Office of Chief Engineer and Surveyor,
Philadelphia, May 14th, 1855.

To His Honor, ROBERT T. CONRAD,
Mayor of the City.

SIR:—Your circular of date, May 1st, instant, has just been handed me. I hasten to comply with your wishes therein

set forth, so far as the limited time allowed for their preparation and the short time that has elapsed since I have had an opportunity of becoming familiar with the detail of this department will permit. The existence of this department can date only from the 7th inst., as all arrangements previously made were rendered nugatory by an Act of the Assembly, changing entirely its organization.

The interests connected with and under charge of this department, are of great importance to every individual of our extended city, and have not heretofore received that attention which is their due. The documents, plans, &c., under our charge, relating to property lines and lines of streets, are of incalculable value to the city and property holders generally, and should be guarded and preserved with jealous care.

I therefore ask for an office, wherein sufficient room can be had for such arrangements as will allow easy reference, and render them secure from loss or destruction. If offices, with a proper attention to security, were furnished to the Surveyors and Regulators, it would add much to the safety of valuable papers which will require time to be concentrated in the general office.

The sanitary interests of the city, are, to a great extent, in our charge, and are, without doubt, seriously affected by a want of information that should be in the possession of this department. This can be reached only by minute and extended examinations, as to the state and position of existing sewers, and also for the purpose of obtaining plans to regulate future drainage. For this purpose I desire assistance, with which a complete drainage map can be completed, exibiting the topographical features of the city. This is rendered necessary from the accumulation of business that requires the constant and undivided attention of the Surveyors and Regulators, preventing an energetic action on their part, to other than

the immediate duties for which they have been elected. This assistanee to the Chief Engineer and Surveyor, could take charge of the eonstruction of all sewers, bridges, and other improvements, and insure that proper attention will be given to the eharaeter of the work, from the imperfeetions of which, heretofore, the city has suffered serious pecuniary loss.

Another matter, which is very neeessary for early attention, is, that all ordinanees relating to Surveyors and Regulators, framed for the old eity and distriets, previous to consolidation, be made to harmonize, that we may have a uniform system and basis to work on, over the entire eity.

The expenses for the current year will be as follows:

Chief Engineer and Surveyor, -	$3,000 00	
Clerk and Messenger, - -	1,600 00	
Draftsman, - - - -	800 00	
Twelve Surveyors and Regulators, $500 eaeh, - - - -	6,000 00	
		$11,400 00
Office Rent and Stationery, - - -		1,600 00
Extra Assistants, - - - - -		2,500 00
		$15,500 00

There are no projects or improvements that I ean safely say should be deferred, other than the Sehuylkill bridge at Chestnut street, the immediate neeessities for which are not pressing, but the Cohocksink eulvert should be proeeeded with at the earliest moment, yet not without full examination as to its location and proportions, neither of which have been satisfactorily ascertained or reported upon, and immediate attention should also be given to any eulverts that now deliver sewerage into the dam at Fairmount, and means taken to

connect them with others delivering below the dam, that the water supplied for city use should not be affected deleteriously thereby.

Very respectfully,

STRICKLAND KNEASS,

Chief Engineer and Surveyor.

Report of the City Treasurer.

DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY TREASURER,

Philadelphia, May 11th, 1855.

To the Hon. ROBERT T. CONRAD,
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

SIR:—Your circular, in relation to this department was received, the contents of which I hasten to notice with as much precision as the nature of the circumstances will permit.

The interests connected with and under the charge of this deparment at the time of its organization, (except those transferred from the old city proper,) were in a very confused and intricate condition. The accounts of some of the Corporations were kept with little regard to accuracy or system, so that it required the most diligent application and care on the part of the clerks of this department, to unite the whole into one plain and legible system of charge and discharge as accounts current. I may also add, that it will still require great care and attention on the part of those who may have charge of this department to protect the interests of our great and growing city.

In conducting the business of this department, I have had a strict regard to economy; the duties and labors of the office were commenced with four clerks and a messenger, at an

aggregate expense of about eight thousand six hundred dollars per annum, which sum includes my own salary, books, stationery, and incidental expenses. As the business of the office increased I found it necessary to apply to Councils for additional aid, which was granted, allowing me to employ three additional or temporary clerks, at the rate of seventy-five dollars per month, through the agency of which, and those employed permanently, I have been enabled to discharge the duties of the office without delay, and I trust to the satisfaction of those persons having business to transact with the department.

Judging from the past and present, I am fully impressed with the belief, that the duties of the office cannot be faithfully and promptly attended to prospectively, with any greater degree of economy in the future. The results attained up to this time by a regular and systematic order of business with the needful assistance to transact the same, are, that every thing is done with promptness and correctness, and a strict regard to the accommodation of those having business to transact.

To the credit of our city both at home and abroad, I sincerely hope that Councils will not hereafter make appropriations, without a corresponding provision to furnish the Treasurer with means to pay all warrants that may be drawn by the different departments upon their presentation, without placing him in the unpleasant position of turning away empty, those having just and equitable claims against the city.

Very truly yours,

JOHN LINDSAY,

City Treasurer.

Report from the Receiver of Taxes.

RECEIVER OF TAXES OFFICE,
May 8th, 1855.

HON. ROBERT T. CONRAD,
Mayor of Philadelphia.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your printed communication, dated May 1st, and received on the 5th, I have to state, first, at the time of the organization of this department, (or rather up to that time) the taxes had been collected by Tax Collectors, the aggregate of whose compensation was, I presume, over $100,000 per annum.

Second. The department now employs 1 chief and 14 assistant clerks.

Third. The expenses of the department from August 1st, 1854, to January 1st, 1855, were eleven thousand nine hundred and forty-four dollars eighty-two cents ($11,944 82.) The estimated expenses for the current year, 1855, were $22,175, but these will be increased very materially if the provisions of the supplement to the Consolidation Act be carried out.

Fourth. The amount of tax bills collected up to this time for the present year is seven hundred and twenty-two thousand six hundred and ninety-nine dollars seventy-four cents ($722,699 74), on which there was an allowance of seventy-three thousand seven hundred and twenty-seven dollars thirty-two cents ($73,727 32.)

On the duplicates of 1854, I have paid in one million seven hundred and seventy-eight thousand seven hundred and sixteen dollars ninety-six cents ($1,778,716 96).

Fifth. Two things are, in my judgment, essentially necessary to render this department what it should be. These are, first, a uniform system of valuation of real estate, (say at ten

times its rental); and, second, have the assessments made on the *property*, instead of as now against the *owners*. Much of the real estate of this city is assessed to parties who have not held it for years. This renders it utterly impossible for the clerks in the office to make out bills without the assistance of the real owners. If ward maps and block maps were directed to be made and deposited in the office, on which each lot (or farm were distinctly laid down and numbered, and the assessment made on each lot by its *own* number, no mistakes need occur from the sale or sales of such property, as do now. The cost of such maps would be considerable at first, but the saving in clerk hire in the office (to say nothing of the convenience to tax payers,) would amply compensate this in a few years.

All which is most respectfully submitted,

JOHN M. COLEMAN,
Receiver of Taxes.

Report from the Chief Engineer of the Water Department.

To the Hon. R. T. Conrad,
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:—The following in reply to the circular received from you a short time since is very respectfully submitted. In compliance with the requirements of the ordinance regulating the Water Department, I have recently made to Councils a report on the condition of the works under my charge. I herewith send you the first printed copy of it, believing that it will answer a large portion of the interrogatories contained in the circular. I also send a book containing the rules and

regulations which I have made, to define the duties of the officers in my department. The names and salaries of these officers are fixed by the ordinance regulating the "Department for Supplying the City with Water," are as follows:

	Per Annum.
Frederic Graff, Chief Engineer of the Department,	$3000 00
George W. McMahan, Register do do	2000 00
Benj. G. Mann, Principal Clerk do do	1000 00
Alfred J. White, Permit Clerk, - - -	900 00
Calvin Test, do - - - -	900 00
Richard S. Owen, do - - - -	900 00
E. S. McGlue, Purveyor, - - - -	800 00
J. Eldridge, do (now resigned,) - -	800 00
William Foster, do - - - - -	800 00
A. A. Widdis, do - - - - -	800 00
G. W. Harvey, Inspector, - - - -	700 00
J. Swartz, do - - - - -	700 00
P. Schuyler, Jr., do - - - - -	700 00
Wm. Dougherty, do - - - - -	700 00
G. B. Stackhouse, Messenger, - - - -	600 00
James Hillman, Engineman, late Sp. Garden Works,	800 00
Charles Gamble, do do do do	800 00
William H. Elsea, do do Kensington do	800 00
James Dowdey, do do do do	800 00
L. Debozier, do Fairmount do	800 00
W. Garrett, do do do	800 00
P. Conrad, do do do	800 00
John Hackett, Watchman Kensington Reservoir,	600 00
David Morris, do Spring Garden and Fairmount Reservoirs, - - - - -	600 00

A careful examination convinces me that all these officers are fully and usefully employed, and I do not see how we could in the present state of the business of the department dispense with the services of any of them. One of the pur-

veyors, Mr. Eldridge, has just resigned his situation, and I do not intend to appoint a new man in his place unless I find that the interests of the city suffer. I shall add the district attended to by him to those of one of the other purveyors, and if it is found that he can get through with the whole duty properly, no new purveyor will be appointed.

The department has been somewhat embarrassed by the want of experience in the duties which the purveyors and others have undertaken, they are however learning, and are daily becoming more efficient, thereby relieving the Chief of much of the labor required to teach them their duties.

In the Register's department I do not see that we can dispense with a single person, in fact during the great pressure which took place just previous to the time when the penalty of five per cent. was added to the rents, we were obliged to call in the aid of all the inspectors and one of the purveyors, and all even then were much overworked, the whole force being on duty from eight and a half o'clock in the morning until twelve o'clock and after every night for several weeks together, and even now the clerks are almost daily detained several hours after the time fixed by ordinance for the closing of the office.

Some idea of the labor of the office may be formed from the fact that very many of the rents do not exceed two and one-half dollars each, and a large portion not more than five dollars each. In the first three months of the year $237,197 86 was received from 13,320 tenants, of this, $234,450 56 was for annual water rents, the average rent therefore paid by each person was $17 60, this includes factories and large consumers. We were obliged to settle the rents upon the old duplicate books, those of the districts were generally found in the utmost confusion and full of errors, causing much extra labor and great annoyance. We have also suffered excessively from the very small size of the office, in consequence of which

we were unable to arrange the desks and clerks to the best advantage. The inspectors are now all engaged in visiting every property, and in getting such information as will enable the Register to arrange the books of the late districts upon the same plan as those of the old city, as is mentioned on page 54 of my report to Councils.

No diminution can be effected in the number of enginemen at the water and steam works; in fact, I fear that one more will be required. A new engine of large size has been erected at Schuylkill works, (see page 13 of Report,) of a kind requiring the very closest attention; there are also at those works three other engines, which, from having been overworked and badly taken care of, are just in that state to require extra attention. We have two enginemen at the works, who of course work twelve hours each. This is a very long period for a night watch, where active duty is required all the time. It is therefore probable that we shall require another engineman, that we may be able to work them on eight hours spells, as we now do at Fairmount.

As a new set of boilers have been erected some considerable distance from the old ones, extra firemen will be necessary. No retrenchment can be expected here.

The watchmen at the reservoirs are actually necessary to prevent nuisance, and to report the stage of water to the enginemen. The number of men employed regularly in the works cannot be decreased without disadvantage.

I have thus far had no clerk or draughtsman in my office, but have attended to both those duties in addition to my others; and as much of my time must necessarily be occupied in the streets and in visits to the several works, I have been obliged to do the clerkly duty mostly at night: it has proved quite onerous, but a desire to keep the number of officers as few as possible has restrained me from asking for assistance.

The number of men permanently employed are as follows:

Two blacksmiths and helpers, engaged in fitting up and

making stop-cocks, fire-plugs, preparing brass ferrules, and making and repairing the tools for the pipe layers. Stop-cocks and plugs are articles requiring great care in fitting up; we have always done this work for the old city ourselves, finding that we can do it quite as cheap and much better than any similar articles can be obtained from the ordinary manufacturers of them.

One carpenter, at repairs to cock boxes, wooden plug cases, &c., &c.

One carter, hauling pipes and materials of all kinds.

Twelve laborers, engaged in drilling holes for new attachments, making repairs of leaks and to the water fixtures, &c.

One man to keep the garden and grounds at Fairmount in order.

Six firemen and four coal wheelers for the two steam works.

I see no reason to think that the expenses of the department can be curtailed this year in any way, without disadvantage, I have only to hope that we may be able to keep them within the amount appropriated.

The improvements at the Spring Garden works have been quite expensive.

The works in Twenty-fourth Ward, when started, will require some new officers for their management, and as the amount for their completion could not be ascertained, no appropriation was asked for that purpose at the time the general appropriation was made.

The department is now in good working order throughout, although the system is not quite what I desire yet, but if we can retain our present clerks, purveyors, &c., until they get fully familiarized with the duties, it will soon be all that we can reasonably expect.

There is no reason to believe that the revenue derived from the water rents will not be amply sufficient to meet all the expenditures.

The revenue of the works will this year exceed $355,000.

The expenses should not exceed $210,000, and next year may probably be less.

Any further information will be cheerfully communicated.

Very respectfully,

FREDERIC GRAFF,

Chief Engineer Water Department.

The following will show the large amount of business transacted in the Register's Department this year, to the present date.

Eleven hundred new water rent permits have been granted, paying $6,248 75. This amount therefore shows the increase of revenue to this date, over that of last year.

The amount of annual water rents received, from January 1st, 1855, to April 30th, 1855, is as follows:

January,	rec'd from	1,714	water rent	payers,	$24,538 25
February,	do	1,836	do	do	28,955 50
March	do	9,770	do	do	181,956 81
April,	do	1,567	do	do	16,105 94
		14,887	water rent	payers,	$251,556 50

Fractional rents received for new permits for the rent, from date of permit to end of the year, from January 1st, to April 30th, 1855, - - - - - - - 7,254 46

Received for payment of cost of laying pipes, 930 73

Total amount received by the register and paid into the Treasury from January 1st, 1855, to April 30th, 1855, - - - - - $259,741 69

Balance of water rents still due for 1855, is $80,032 25

The increase of water revenue, by new permits this year, will, no doubt exceed $25,000.

The expenses of all the works for the year 1853, appear to have been as follows: I have not been able to obtain those

of 1854, with sufficient accuracy to warrant a statement, on account of the interference caused by consolidation, &c., &c.

Total expenses of Fairmount works for 1853,		$33,409 05
do do at Schuylkill Engine House, - - - - -	$24,660 96	
Total expenses at Spring Garden, laying pipes, - - - - -	22,918 79	
Total expenses at Northern Liberties,	468 00	
		49,047 75
Total expenses at Kensington Engine House, - - - - - -	12,030 72	
Total expenses at Kensington, laying pipes, - - - - - -	34,449 94	
		46,480 66
Total expenses at Richmond, laying pipes and repairs, - - - - - - - -		10,964 65
Total expenses at Southwark, do do		8,910 60
do do Moyamensing, do do		9,409 49
do do Penn, do do		20,939 85
Total, - - - - - -		$179,153 05

The income of all the works for 1853 I have been unable to obtain.

Very respectfully,
FREDERIC GRAFF,
Chief Engineer of Water Department.

Report from the President of the Board of Managers of the House of Correction.

Hon. ROBERT T. CONRAD,
Mayor of Philadelphia.

SIR:—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular, requesting to be furnished with certain information

in relation to the affairs connected with the House of Correction.

I beg leave to state, in answer to your first interrogatory, that by an Act of Assembly, approved the 28th day of April, 1854, providing for the establishment of a House of Correction, a Board of Managers was duly formed, and immediately after their organization, adopted such measures as in their opinion were best calculated to carry out the design proposed to be accomplished thereby; but on summing up all the details of cost, comprising site, buildings and necessary expenses attendant upon the proper supervision and maintenance of the same. The sum appropriated was much too limited to justify the managers in any attempt to commence the enterprise, and in view of the sum, viz: ($100,000,) being too small, an appeal has been made to the legislature now in session for an additional amount, but up to the present moment no action in the matter has been had in either body. The prospect therefore of obtaining any adequate relief for the present from that source is utterly hopeless.

The Board of Managers have no one employed at a salary, or have they incurred thus far any expense whatever, except that paid in the shape of premiums to the architects, whose first and second plans were approved of, viz: dollars for the best plan, which was adopted, and dollars for the second best, agreeably to the advertisements, inviting proposals for plans, &c., and for publishing the printed report, which I have the honor herewith to submit for your examination, and to which I most respectfully refer you.

To the 2d, I answer it is proposed to keep up the organization, at least as long as there is a shadow of hope for effecting the objects of the law. But, for the reasons given in my preceding remarks, you must be fully aware that our condition is quiescent, supine?

3d. This inquiry, in connection with what I have already informed you, answers itself.

4th. No result whatever could be expected under the circumstances already detailed.

5th. Under the present unfortunate aspect of affairs, I have nothing to suggest to Councils, unless it is to urge upon them the necessity of stimulating the public mind in a matter of such vital importance, as I deem it to be to our entire community, and the well being, especially of those whom it is proposed to reform, by the establishment of the institution contemplated.

I have the honor to be Yours, &c.,

E. W. KEYSER,

President of Board of Managers of House of Correction.

Philadelphia, May 9th, 1855.

Report from the Clerks of Councils.

CLERKS' OFFICE OF THE SELECT AND COMMON COUNCILS,
PHILADELPHIA, *May 16th*, 1855.

To the HON. R. T. CONRAD,
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

SIR: The undersigned, Clerks of the Select and Common Councils of the City of Philadelphia, in compliance with your request of the 1st instant, respectfully report:

That the department of the Clerks of Councils originated with the first organization of Councils, under the Act of Assembly, approved February 2d, 1854, entitled "A further Supplement to an Act, entitled, An Act to incorporate the City of Philadelphia;" which said organization was effected upon the twelfth day of June, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

The officers in this department consist at present of two Principal Clerks, two Assistant Clerks, and three Messengers.

The ordinance relating to the Clerks and Messengers of Councils, approved the 5th instant, provides for the election of a Transcribing Clerk for the two branches of Councils. This officer has not yet been elected.

The salaries of said officers are as follows:—

Principal Clerks, each, $1,500 per annum, -	$3,000
Assistants and Transcribing Clerks, each, $1,500 per annum, - - - - - - -	3,000
Three Messengers, each, $700 per annum, -	2,100
	$8,100

The estimated annual expenses of the department, including salaries, advertising, printing, binding, stationery, &c., is - - - - - - - - - $30,000

The Library of the City of Philadelphia has been placed under the charge of the Clerks of Councils, subject to such regulations as Councils may from time to time prescribe. No authorized person having had charge of it for the last ten months, many of the books are scattered in various places, mislaid, and some stolen, and no doubt will be collected with difficulty.

As the office of the Clerks has been designated for the location of the Library, it is necessary that suitable book-cases and other accommodations should be provided.

Very truly yours, &c.

JOS. WOOD, Jr.,
Clerk of Select Council.

JOHN M. RILEY,
Clerk of Common Council.